



A pedestrian strolls past a statue of Pittsburgh Pirates Hall of Fame Willie Stargell outside the left field gate of PNC Park as snow falls during the morning rush-hour, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019, in Pittsburgh.

Associated Press
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This Feb. 2, 2015, file photo, depicts a part of a U.S. \$100 bill.
Associated Press

Government headed for close to half of nation's health tab

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even without a history-making health care remake to deliver "Medicare-for-all," government at all levels will be paying nearly half the nation's health care tab in less than 10 years, according to a federal report released Wednesday. The government growth is driven by traditional Medi-

care, which is experiencing a surge in enrollment as aging baby boomers shift out of private coverage, according to the analysis from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Federal, state and local governments will be paying 47 percent of the nation's health care costs in 2027, up from 45 percent currently, the report said.

The report did not consider the potential impact of "Medicare-for-all" national health insurance plans from Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders and other liberals. Nor did it delve into a financial rescue of traditional Medicare that could become a pressing political priority for all sides in just a few years.

Medicare's trustees have said the program will be insolvent in seven years, when its giant trust fund for inpatient care won't be able to fully cover expected medical bills.

Spelling out the economic consequences of current laws and policies, the report serves as a reality check on the political debate over health care. That debate ranges from President Donald Trump's warnings about lurking "socialism" to the suggestion from Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., a 2020 contender, that the U.S. can simply "move on" to a new taxpayer-financed system that would

cover all Americans.

"To the extent that a Martian landed and saw how much of the American health care system is funded by the government, it's been about 50 percent for some time," said economist Paul Hughes-Cromwick of Altarum, a nonprofit research organization.

The report projected that U.S. health care spending will surpass \$5.9 trillion in 2027, growing to represent more than 19 percent of the economy.

Health care spending is expected to increase somewhat more rapidly than overall economic growth from 2018 to 2027, underscoring an ingrained affordability problem for government, employers and U.S. households.

Rising prices for health care goods and services are expected to account for nearly half the spending growth, said the report, with the rest driven by a mix of factors, including an aging population and more intensive use of services.

"The baby boom generation is expected to shift from private health insurance coverage to Medicare coverage during the projection period," said Andrea Sisko, an author of the report.

Spending on prescription drugs is expected to pick up again after a recent slowdown, averaging about 6 percent a year from 2020 to 2027, the report found. □





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Storm dumps snow or heavy rain, snarls travel in much of U.S.

From Front

NEW YORK (AP)— A sprawling storm dumped several inches of snow from the Midwest to the East Coast and deluged the South with rain Wednesday as it closed schools, snarled air travel and littered highways with crashes. Only a few inches of snow fell along the Interstate 95 corridor from New York to Washington, but it was enough to put a scare into an area that has seen little of it this winter. Schools and government offices around the region closed early. New Jersey's governor declared a state of emergency, even though only 4 inches (10 centimeters) of snow was expected before turning to rain Wednesday night. State and local government offices in Delaware closed early, and so did local offices in Philadelphia. But the evening commute started out on a good note. A spokesperson for AAA Mid-Atlantic had said earlier in the afternoon it appeared motorists heeded warnings to stay off roads. Nationwide, more than 2,200 flights were canceled and more than 5,500 were delayed, according to the flight-tracking website FlightAware. The mid-Atlantic region was especially hard hit as airlines pulled flights ahead of the storm. Washington's Reagan National Airport led the pack. "Travel anymore

is not easy, so you expect the unexpected," said Stacy Flye, trying to get home to Florida. "And you know, we knew the weather was going to be bad, but sometimes you just have to take your chances."

Amtrak made changes to its Keystone service between New York and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Multiple crashes, including a jackknifed tractor-trailer, shut down westbound lanes of the Pennsylvania Turnpike in Lancaster County. Farther west, snow forced Minneapolis and St. Paul schools and scores of other districts in Minnesota and Wisconsin to cancel classes as up to 10 inches of snow fell on the region. Schools, businesses and government offices in Kansas closed or announced plans to start late. Several school districts closed in Missouri, where officials said many roads across the northern half of the state were partially or completely snow covered.

The storm produced heavy rain and flash floods in parts of the Deep South. Water covered roads in parts of eastern Mississippi and northern Alabama.

Creeks swelled in Tennessee, and about 2 inches (5 centimeters) of rain fell Tuesday and Wednesday at Nashville International Airport. As much as 8 inches (20 centimeters) of rain is expected through Saturday. □



A homeowner can only watch from his front door as water levels rise near his house and flood the streets along Evergreen Drive in Safford, Mississippi Wednesday, February 20, 2019. Floodwaters covered roads on Wednesday in parts of eastern Mississippi and northern Alabama.

Associated Press

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Dems' measure blocking Trump emergency will come Friday

By **ALAN FRAM**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democrats will file a resolution Friday aimed at blocking the national emergency declaration that President Donald Trump has issued to help finance his wall along the Southwest border, teeing up a clash over billions of dollars, immigration policy and the Constitution's sep-

aration of powers.

That could set up a vote by the full House by mid-March, if not sooner.

The battle is over a declaration that Trump, whose border wall was the most visible trademark of his presidential campaign, is using to try spending billions of dollars beyond what Congress has authorized to start building border barriers.

Passage by the Democrat-

ic-run House seems likely.

The measure would then move to the Republican-controlled Senate, where there may be enough GOP defections for approval.

Trump has promised to veto the measure.

It seems unlikely Congress could muster the two-thirds majorities in each chamber needed to override a veto. Aides to Rep.

Joaquin Castro, D-Texas,



President Donald Trump gestures as visiting Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz leaves the White House in Washington following their meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

Associated Press

were circulating a letter Wednesday to other congressional offices seeking additional co-sponsors to his one-page resolution.

"We are planning to introduce it on Friday morning," said the letter, which was obtained by The Associated Press. Castro's measure, which described Trump's emergency declaration, says it "is hereby terminated." Castro chairs the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. Congress approved a vast spending bill last week providing nearly \$1.4 billion to build 55 miles of border barriers in Texas' Rio Grande Valley while preventing a renewed government shutdown. That measure represented a rejection of Trump's demand for \$5.7 billion to construct

more than 200 miles.

Besides signing the bill, Trump also declared a national emergency that he says gives him access to an additional \$6.6 billion that would be taken from a federal asset forfeiture fund, Defense Department anti-drug efforts and military construction projects.

Democrats and some Republicans say there is no emergency at the border and say Trump is improperly declaring one to work around Congress' rejection of the higher amounts.

The plan for introducing the resolution was initially described by officials at three progressive groups who heard of them from congressional aides but were not authorized to discuss the plans privately. □

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Bad Deal? Suit fears shore towns closing beach access points



This Feb. 5, 2019 photo shows boulders leading down to the beach in Deal, N.J. on a street end that the town plans to give up to a private property owner.

By **WAYNE PARRY**
Associated Press

DEAL, N.J. (AP) — It was hard to tell what had Matt Schwartz more stoked: the waves rolling in, or the relatively balmy 64-degree February weather as he wrapped up a day of surfing.

But something else was bothering him: the possibility that he won't be able to surf here for much longer. The spot where Schwartz carried his board ashore is the latest flash point in a decades-long battle in New Jersey and elsewhere over who can reach and use the beach.

The American Littoral Society is suing the borough of Deal, trying to nullify an ordinance it passed in December that would vacate the end of an oceanfront street in return for a \$1 million payment from a nearby landowner who wants the property as part of a development proposal.

The group, which has fought for decades to preserve the public's right to access and use public beaches, fears a dangerous precedent may be set in which coastal towns sell street ends to private land-

owners. The new owners might then block off spots the public has long used to reach the sand, according to access advocates.

"It's definitely not fair what they're doing," Schwartz said as he peeled off his wet suit and put his surfboard away. "It seems like they cater to one class of wealthy people here. I own a business and I pay taxes, and I should be able to walk on a public beach." Deal says no physical barrier will prevent people from walking out onto the rocks and the sand even after the street end is vacated.

But surfers and fishermen are worried that is exactly what will happen once the transfer goes through.

"In the 1850s, our courts recognized the value of street ends in providing the public access to the shore," said Andrew Provence, the lawyer for the Littoral Society. "It is important to fight this new notion that street ends ... can be vacated for the right price."

New Jersey law regarding beach access is based on legal principles dating back to the Roman Empire, in which the tidal waters and beaches are held in

trust for the public.

The American Littoral Society says the street, Neptune Avenue, has long been used by surfers, fishermen and others.

"Public access to the beaches and tidal waterfronts of our state is constantly under attack," said Tim Dillingham, the group's executive director. "We are taking this action to prevent the loss of this important public access way to the beach, and to ensure that other towns aren't tempted to sell off the public's rights to the highest bidder."

Deal counters that the end of Neptune Avenue has never been an official beach access point. It notes that on an official inventory of such places maintained by the state Department of Environmental Protection, the avenue is listed as a visual access-only spot, meaning people can stand there to look at the ocean, but not use it to walk down onto the beach.

A corner of the street end opens onto a row of large boulders, placed there as part of a recent beach replenishment project fol-

lowing Superstorm Sandy. While they don't faze surfers and fishermen, who use the spot daily to get on and off the beach, the boulders can make it difficult for others to use. The town says it has an official beach access point two blocks away, and denies it is eliminating any existing beach access.

Deal says its agreement with the developer prohibits anyone from blocking visual access to the beach and ocean, and it maintains a 12-foot-wide strip of land enabling access to the end of the property where the boulders begin. That would preserve the existing level of access, the town maintains.

Paul Fernicola, an attorney for Deal, told The Associated Press that no physical barrier will be erected to block people from getting onto the boulders and then accessing the sand. But the Littoral Society and other beach access advocates fear that will be what happens eventually. Deal's mayor and the parent company of the developer that would acquire the land did not respond to messages seeking comment on Thursday.

John Weber, a borough councilman in nearby Bradley Beach, is a long-time surfer who has seen Deal discourage public beach use for decades by writing tickets to surfers, and trying numerous times to restrict parking near the beach to residents only.

"They just don't get that the beaches belong to everyone," he said. "Surfers, anglers, all sorts of people, not just people who live in their town." □

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'Excessive fines' ban applies to states, Supreme Court says

By **MARK SHERMAN**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tyson Timbs admitted he'd sold drugs, and he accepted his sentence without a fight. What he wouldn't quietly accept was the police seizing and keeping the \$40,000 Land Rover he'd had when arrested. On Wednesday, the Supreme Court sided with him unanimously in ruling the Constitution's ban on excessive fines applies to the states as well as the federal government.

The decision, in an opinion written by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, could help efforts to rein in police seizures of property from criminal suspects.

Reading a summary of her opinion in the courtroom, Ginsburg noted that governments employ fines "out of accord with the penal goals of retribution and deterrence" because fines are a source of revenue. The 85-year-old justice missed arguments in other cases last month following lung cancer surgery, but she returned to the bench on Tuesday.

Timbs, of Marion, Indiana, was charged in 2013 with selling \$400 worth of heroin. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to a year



Visitors wait to enter the Supreme Court as a winter snow storm hits the nation's capital making roads perilous and closing most Federal offices and all major public school districts, on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

of house arrest but faced no prison time. His biggest loss was the Land Rover he had bought with some of the life insurance money he received after his father died. Timbs still has to win one more round in court before he gets his vehicle back, but that seems to be a formality.

A judge in Indiana had ruled that taking the car was disproportionate to the severity of the crime, which carries a maximum fine of

\$10,000. But Indiana's top court said the justices had never ruled that the Eighth Amendment's ban on excessive fines — like much of the rest of the Bill of Rights — applies to states as well as the federal government. The case drew interest from both liberal groups concerned about police abuses and conservative organizations opposed to excessive regulation. Timbs was represented by the libertarian public interest law

Associated Press

firm Institute for Justice. "The decision is an important first step for curtailing the potential for abuse that we see in civil forfeiture nationwide," said Sam Gedge, a lawyer with the Institute for Justice.

Law enforcement authorities have dramatically increased their use of civil forfeiture in recent decades. When police seize the property of people accused of crimes, the proceeds from the sale often

go directly to the agency that took it, the law firm said in written arguments in support of Timbs.

The Indiana man had been on hand when arguments in the case were heard before the justices last November.

He said back then that his view of the case had changed over time.

"At first it was about getting my truck back because I was mad, and I wanted my stuff back. Now it's a lot different," he said. "I was curious to see how often they did this to people. They do it a lot around here, and apparently it's done all over the country."

As it did in earlier cases applying parts of the Bill of Rights to the states, the court based its decision on the part of the 14th Amendment that says "no state shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." That same provision, the due process clause, also was used in cases that established a woman's right to an abortion and knocked down state laws against interracial marriage and gay sex.

The 14th Amendment was passed after the Civil War to ensure the rights of newly freed slaves. □

Mormon church won't oppose gay conversion therapy ban

By **LINDSAY WHITEHURST**

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The Mormon church won't stand in the way of a proposal to ban gay conversion therapy for minors in its home base of Utah, leaders said Wednesday, a position that advocates heralded as a milestone in the conservative state.

The announcement is key in part because LGBT members have historically reported that church leaders encouraged them to attend therapy aimed at changing their sexual orientation, said Troy Williams with the group Equality Utah.

"We are grateful that The Church of Jesus Christ of



In this Sept. 11, 2014, file photo, the angel Moroni statue sits atop the Salt Lake Temple, at Temple Square, in Salt Lake City.

Associated Press

Latter-day Saints recognizes the harms of conver-

sion therapy and has denounced the practice," he said.

Moreover, most members of the Utah Legislature are members of the church, and its positions can hold outsized sway.

Supporters of the proposal have worked with the church to address concerns about religious freedom and make sure that counseling in line with church teachings on marriage and sexuality won't come under the proposed ban, said Marty Stephens, a lobbyist for the church.

The faith opposes same-sex marriage and sexual intimacy, but it has taken a more welcoming stance to LGBT people in recent years. In

2016, the faith declared that same-sex attraction is not a sin, a shift that came eight years after a backlash over the church's role helping lead the 2008 fight for California's Proposition 8 ban on gay marriage.

The legislation set to be formally unveiled on Thursday will help bolster the mental health of LGBT young people amid an alarming spike in youth suicides in the state, Republican sponsor Rep. Craig Hall said in a statement.

The American Psychological Association opposes therapy seeking to change sexual orientation, and it has been banned in fifteen states and the District of Columbia. □

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Eyana Spencer, principal at Manzanita Community School, left, and Katherine Carter, a principal at Oakland School of Language, look over their schedule for meeting with California lawmakers about Oakland school funding during a visit to the Capitol in Sacramento, Calif., Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

Associated Press

Oakland teachers get ready to strike over pay, class sizes

By JOCELYN GECKER
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Teachers in Oakland, California, prepared Wednesday to walk off the job in what could be the nation's latest strike over classroom conditions and pay. Oakland's 3,000 teachers planned to pack up personal items from classrooms and say goodbye to students then begin the strike Thursday, "barring an unlikely change from the district," union officials with the Oakland Education Association said.

The walkout would affect 36,000 students at 86 schools.

In a message to parents, the Oakland Unified School District said schools would remain open, staffed by non-union employees and substitute teachers. However, picket lines were expected and parents should

not expect school as usual, it said.

Negotiators were meeting Wednesday and hoped to avoid a walkout, district spokesman John Sasaki said.

Oakland teachers have been working without a contract since 2017 and say their salaries are not keeping up with the exorbitant cost of living in the San Francisco Bay Area.

They want smaller class sizes, more counselors and full-time nurses, and a 12 percent retroactive raise covering 2017 to 2020 to compensate for what they said have been some of the lowest salaries among public school teachers in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The district has offered a 5 percent raise over the same period, saying it is squeezed by rising costs and a budget crisis. □

Arrests made in decades-old killings of 2 California kids

By AMY TAXIN

Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) —

Authorities said Wednesday that they solved two decades-old cold cases that stunned Southern California, arresting suspects in the separate killings of a boy and a girl who disappeared while walking home from school.

Linda O'Keefe was strangled in 1973, and William Tillett was suffocated in 1990. They were both 11.

James Neal, 72, was arrested in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and charged with murder with special circumstances in Linda's death — a case that has long shaken the seaside community of Newport Beach, Orange County District Attorney Todd Spitzer said.

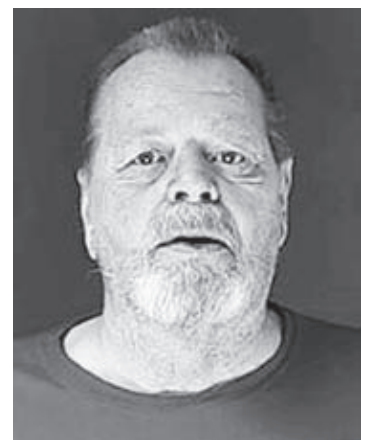
"The detectives dogged this case," Spitzer told reporters, saying advances in technology have made it possible to close old cases. "We have every opportunity in the world to solve so many of these cold cases that we never had hope in the past of solving." Authorities published sketches of the suspect last year based on genealogical evidence taken from a DNA sample at the crime scene. Investigators got a hit from a genealogical database earlier this year and got a DNA sample from Neal that matched, Spitzer said. Neal was expected in court in Colorado on Wednesday. It was not immediately clear if he had an attorney who could speak on his behalf. The voicemail was full

on a number listed for Neal. Linda was walking home from summer school in Newport Beach on July 6, 1973, when she vanished. She was last seen talking to a stranger in a van and never made it home, Newport Beach police Chief Jon Lewis said.

Neal lived in Southern California when Linda was killed and went to Florida soon afterward, where he changed his name, prosecutors said.

Authorities said they never gave up the search for her killer, even after decades passed and her parents had died. Linda's two living sisters have been told about the arrest, authorities said.

In the 1990 case, a 50-year-old Edward Donell Thomas was in custody in connection with the kidnapping and killing of William Tillett outside Los Angeles. Prosecutors said they charged him with murder Tuesday. Inglewood police have



This undated booking photo provided by the El Paso County, Colo., Sheriff's Office shows James Neal.

Associated Press

"significant and compelling physical evidence which implicates Edward Thomas in the murder of William Tillett," Capt. Mark Fried said Wednesday. He declined to elaborate.

The boy disappeared while walking home from school in Inglewood on May 24, 1990. His body was found in a dark carport later that day. The coroner determined he had been suffocated. □

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UK's May, EU chief call latest Brexit talks 'constructive'

By **RAF CASERT**

JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — After the resignations of three of her party's lawmakers over Brexit, British Prime Minister Theresa May came away from more talks on preventing the U.K. from crashing out of the European Union with both she and the EU's chief deeming their meeting "constructive" Wednesday. No breakthrough was announced from the dinner meeting at EU headquarters in Brussels between May and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker.

But a joint communique from the two promised their respective negotiating teams "would continue to explore the options in a positive spirit." Since Juncker had said ahead of time he expected little to come from the meeting, their second this month, the characterization of it turning out to be constructive could be considered a decent outcome. "We've made progress," said May. She and Juncker agreed to have another meeting before the end of the month. It could come as soon as an EU-Arab League summit in Egypt starting Sunday. May has been trying to persuade the EU to revise the draft agreement on Brit-



British Prime Minister Theresa May, left, is greeted by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker prior to a meeting at EU headquarters in Brussels, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

Associated Press

ain's withdrawal because lawmakers in Parliament have refused to approve it. But the EU has steadfastly refused to reopen the 585-page legal text. The statement from Juncker and May said they discussed possible "alternative arrangements" and changes to an accompanying political declaration as potential options. Brexit is currently set to take place on March 29. The joint statement said negotiators from the two sides "will review progress again in the coming days, seized of the tight timescale and

the historic significance of setting the EU and the U.K. on a path to a deep and unique future partnership." At home in London, May took big hit. She lost three Tory legislators earlier in the day over her handling of the Brexit negotiations. They resigned to join a new centrist group. Still, it was Juncker who looked most beaten up when their meeting in Brussels started, with a band aid on his left cheek, the result of a bad shaving experience.

"I don't want you to think

Mrs. May is responsible for this injury on my face," Juncker said before welcoming the prime minister to Brussels during a stilted ceremony that did not include a kiss or a handshake like previous occasions. The stalemate over the divorce deal has raised fears of Britain leaving without an agreement on its departure or future relations with the EU, a scenario that could present severe economic disruptions for both sides. It has also raised the possibility of May's government seeking to delay its exit to

wrap up negotiations.

"Time is of the essence, and it's in both our interests that when the U.K. leaves the EU, it does so in an orderly way," said May.

The difficulties finding a proper way out of the crisis over Brexit has created Britain's biggest parliamentary crisis in decades.

Brexit-driven political cracks yawned wider Wednesday as three pro-European lawmakers quit May's ruling Conservatives to join a new centrist group of independents who oppose May's determination to take Britain out of the EU with or without a divorce deal.

Anna Soubry, Heidi Allen and Sarah Wollaston resigned to join eight ex-opposition Labour Party lawmakers in an alliance dubbed the Independent Group. The defections mark the biggest shake-up in decades for Britain's political parties.

U.K. lawmakers object to a border provision between the U.K.'s Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland that would keep the U.K. in a customs union with the EU until a permanent new trading relationship is in place. May wants to change the deal's phrasing to make sure that the mechanism to ensure an open Irish border after Brexit would only apply temporarily. □

French far-right EU candidate says his party equals progress



Head of Marine Le Pen's party list for the European Parliament elections, Jordan Bardella speaks during an interview with Associated Press in Nanterre, outside Paris, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

Associated Press

By **ELAINE GANLEY**

Associated Press

NANTERRE, France (AP) — The top far-right candidate seeking to represent France in the European Parliament said Wednesday his party's goal to extract and protect people from a globalized world epitomizes progress. Jordan Bardella, 23, hopes to become the youngest lawmaker in the EU parliament. Accompanied by Marine Le Pen, leader of the anti-immigration National Rally, Bardella already has made campaign stops in small towns and villages to promote the party's view on what they call the "France of the forgot-

ten." Most French parties have yet to announce their candidates for the European elections. France votes on May 26, the last of four days of balloting across the 27 remaining EU countries after Britain exits.

However, the early start by National Rally reflects the will of the party previously called National Front to outdo its performance from the last EU election, when it won more votes than any other French party.

The party, running with the slogan "Give Power to the People," is convinced it can catch momentum this year from populist gains around Europe.

Le Pen made it to the runoff of the 2017 French presidential election, where she suffered a huge defeat facing the upstart centrist, and now president, Emmanuel Macron.

Bardella said in an interview that Macron, a staunch defender of a strong EU, often contrasts nationalists to progressives. But Bardella thinks "Macron defends ideas that are completely square, obsolete," like free trade, open borders and globalization. "Progress today is called localism. It's called defending borders. It's called protectionism," he said. "I think it's we who truly defend progress." □

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Abuse survivors demand Vatican transparency, accountability

By NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Survivors of clergy sex abuse on Wednesday demanded transparency, zero tolerance for abuse and accountability for religious superiors who cover up for rapists, setting a confrontational tone on the eve of Pope Francis' high-stakes abuse prevention summit. The victims also demanded to meet with Francis himself, but had to settle instead for a two-hour roundtable with members of the organizing committee for the four-day summit, which starts Thursday.

The gathering of church leaders from around the globe is taking place amid intense scrutiny of the Catholic Church's record after new allegations of abuse and cover-up last year sparked a credibility crisis for the hierarchy.

Phil Saviano, an American who played a crucial role in exposing clergy abuse in the United States decades ago, said he told the summit organizers to release the names of abusive priests around the world along with their case files.

"Do it to launch a new era of transparency," Saviano said he told the committee. "Do it to break the code of silence. Do it out of respect for the victims of these men, and do it to help prevent these creeps from abusing any more children."

More than 30 years after the scandal first erupted in Ireland and Australia and 20 years after it hit the U.S., bishops and superiors in many parts of Europe,



Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP) President Tim Lennon from Tucson, Ariz. and SNAP members Esther Hatfield Miller from Los Angeles and Carol Midboe from Austin, pose for pictures during interviews with the media in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican during Pope Francis' general audience, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

Latin America, Africa and Asia either deny clergy sex abuse exists in their regions or downplay the problem. Francis, the first Latin American pope, has made many of the same mistakes. As archbishop in Buenos Aires, he went out of his way to defend a famous street priest who was later convicted of abuse. He also took a handful of measures early on in his papacy that undermined progress the Vatican had made in taking a hard line against rapists.

He finally did an about-face after botching a well-known sex abuse cover-up case in Chile last year. Realizing he had erred, he has vowed to chart a new course and is bringing the rest of the church leader-

ship along with him.

Some 190 leaders of bishops' conferences, religious orders and Vatican offices are gathering for four days of lectures and workshops on preventing sex abuse in their churches, tending to victims and investigating the crimes when they occur.

"I think that the time for words is long, long past," said Archbishop Mark Benedict Coleridge, of Brisbane, Australia, who will deliver the homily at the summit's final Mass on Sunday.

"We are dealing with a global emergency, and I don't think the language is too strong," he said. "A global emergency that requires a global response." The Vatican isn't expecting any miracles, and the

pope himself has called for expectations to be "deflated." But organizers say the meeting marks a turning point in the way the Catholic Church has dealt with the problem, with Francis' own acknowledgment of his mistakes in handling the Chile abuse case a key point of departure.

"I have been impressed by the humility of the Holy Father," said Maltese Archbishop Charles Scicluna, the Vatican sex crimes investigator who helped set Francis straight on Chile. "He's ready to say, 'I got that wrong. We're not going to do it again. We're going to do it right.'"

"I think that gives us great hope," Scicluna said. But Jamaican survivor Denise Buchanan, who at-

tended Wednesday's meeting, demanded to know why the Vatican wasn't implementing zero-tolerance policies on sex abuse across the board. The U.S. bishops' conference is considered a model for requiring any priest who is found guilty of molesting a child to be removed permanently from ministry.

"What is the holdup in implementing zero tolerance?" Buchanan said. "It is like, 'Oh, we already have the laws, we just need to implement the laws.' Obviously, the laws are not working because children are being raped right now." Francois Devaux, from the French victims' group La Parole Libérée, — The Liberated Word — said the survivors made similar points to the committee members, and asked what exactly the summit was expected to accomplish.

Francis did, however, meet with a victim on Wednesday, apparently on the sidelines of his general audience. A video of the meeting showed Francis holding and then kissing the hand of Polish survivor, Marek Lisinski, who heads Poland's Have No Fear foundation. Lisinski went to the Vatican with a delegation headed by Polish lawmaker Joanna Scheuring-Wielgus, who gave Francis a report on hundreds of alleged cases of abuse and cover-up in Poland. In a statement after Wednesday's meeting with the survivors ended, the summit organizers thanked the victims for "sincerity, the depth and the strength of their testimonies." □

Powerful political leader warns against squandering peace

By KATHY GANNON

Associated Press

HERAT, Afghanistan (AP) —

A prominent Afghan political leader who once had the support of some officials to lead Afghanistan's negotiating team with the Taliban, warned the president Wednesday against squandering the best opportunity at peace in more than 17 years of war.

In an interview with The Associated Press, former Cabinet minister Ismail Khan said "the Taliban are ready to find a solution that is good for every Afghan," but they steadfastly refuse to talk with the Afghan government alone, saying the government is a U.S. "puppet."

Suhail Shaheen, a spokesman for the Taliban's office in the Middle Eastern state of Qatar, said the Taliban negotiation team will hold its next round of talks with Washington's peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad on Monday. The Taliban have been negotiating with the U.S. to end America's longest war, which has cost it more than \$1 trillion.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, who has been demanding his government lead all peace talks with



Former Afghan Cabinet Minister Ismail Khan, speaks during an interview with the Associated Press in Herat province, western of, Afghanistan, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

the Taliban, rejected a meeting between the Taliban and a large gathering of prominent Afghan figures, including former President Hamid Karzai and Khan, in Moscow earlier this month.

"Afghan mujahedeen, Afghan intellectuals, elders and politicians, including the Afghan government should start talks with the Taliban," to find a negotiated end to the war that

would allow the U.S. to withdraw its forces, said Khan, who spoke to the AP from Afghanistan's western city of Herat.

Khan, who served in Karzai's government, was a jihadi leader during the 1980s U.S.-backed war against the former Soviet Union. He was among those mujahedeen leaders who became politicians after the Taliban took control of the country. Meanwhile, Ghani's peace

envoy Omer Daudzai on Wednesday sought to reassure a gathering of women and human rights activists in the Afghan capital Kabul with a promise to hold a Loya Jirga, or gathering of political and tribal leaders, in mid-March to lay out lines in the sand the Afghan government won't cross when it eventually enters talks with the Taliban.

The Taliban ruled Afghanistan under a harsh form of

Islamic law from 1996 until the U.S.-led invasion following the Sept. 11 attacks. Many fear that a peace agreement with the Taliban will erode the faltering progress made since their ouster.

One contentious red line for President Ghani has been the holding of presidential elections in July. Daudzai said July presidential polls were non-negotiable. Yet even Khalilzad has expressed reservations about elections as all sides seek to find a way toward peace. Khan outright rejected elections, saying polls held as peace talks are underway will undermine negotiations ensuring it would be impossible for the Taliban to participate.

Instead, Khan supported an interim set up, which the religious movement has also reportedly supported in talks with Khalilzad. Khan said an interim government could govern for six months to one year while the country prepares for polls.

Meanwhile, Daudzai said the Americans and the Taliban had agreed in principle on the withdrawal of U.S. troops, but only after a peace deal is reached with popular support. □

Moroccan police crackdown on protesting teachers



Protesting teachers chant slogans during a demonstration in Rabat, Morocco, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

By AMIRA EL-MASAITI

Associated Press

RABAT, Morocco (AP) —

Moroccan police fired water cannons at protesting teachers who were marching toward a royal palace and beat people with trun-

cheons amid demonstrations around the capital Wednesday. Several demonstrations were held Wednesday, marking exactly eight years after the birth of a Moroccan Arab Spring protest

movement that awakened a spirit of activism in this North African kingdom. Teachers' unions held a protest outside the Education Ministry in Rabat, the capital, and then tried to walk up an alley toward the nearby royal palace, prompting a crackdown. Police officers beat several protesters to the ground. Associated Press reporters saw multiple teachers injured, and several who fainted. Ambulances and police cars filled the neighborhood. The thousands of protesters, many wearing white teachers' robes, came from across Morocco to Rabat to seek salary raises and promotions and protest the limited opportunities for low-ranking teachers, who earn

an average of 400 euros (\$454) a month. They are also angry over temporary government contracts that do not cover health care or pensions. "We are doing a peaceful march, but unfortunately the police are cracking down on us. Teachers are falling to the ground. Teachers are being insulted. Our message is education. Stop the injustice," cried out demonstrator Naima Kalaii, who came from eastern Morocco to join the protest.

At that time, tens of thousands took to the streets across Morocco demanding democratic reforms and social justice. Moroccans didn't bring down a dictator like counterparts in Tunisia and Egypt, but they now regularly hold demon-

strations to tackle challenges from water shortages in neglected provinces to sexual violence and police abuse. Some participants in the February 20 movement lament the limited results of all this action and the fading promise of the 2011 protests. Some also worry about a return to heavy-handed police response to demonstrations. "I thought that we were going out to protest and by doing that alone things would change," said Sara Soujar, one of the movement's young women protest leaders. Soujar reflected on the movement in her Casablanca living room, looking at photos and newspaper articles about her activism, their colors already fading. □



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China closes Tibet to foreigners for sensitive anniversaries

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN

Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China is barring foreign travelers from Tibet over a period of several weeks that includes a pair of sensitive political anniversaries questioning the legitimacy of Beijing's rule over the Himalayan region.

Travel agencies contacted Wednesday said foreign tourists would not be allowed back into Tibet until April 1. It's not clear when the ban started, although some monitoring groups said it began this month.

The ban was confirmed by the online customer service portal of the Tibet Youth International Travel Service, as well as staff at the Tibet Vista and Go to Tibet travel agencies. Both are based in the southwestern city of Chengdu — the main jumping-off point for visits to Tibet. Staff members declined to give their names or offer details.

March 10 is the 60th anniversary of an abortive 1959 uprising against Chinese



In this Feb. 9, 2019, photo released by Xinhua News Agency, tourists pose for souvenir photos in front of the Potala Palace in Lhasa, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region.

rule in Tibet, while anti-government riots occurred March 14, 2008, in the regional capital Lhasa.

Although the foreigner travel ban is an annual occurrence, the occasion of the 60th anniversary is drawing added attention.

Amid heavy security on the

ground, Tibet is almost entirely closed to foreign journalists and diplomats and information about actual conditions there is difficult to obtain.

The 1959 uprising resulted in the flight of Tibet's traditional Buddhist leader, the Dalai Lama, into exile in

India and the beginning of increasingly harsh Chinese rule over the region. Nearly five decades later, anger exploded in a series of protests in an around Lhasa that culminated in attacks on Chinese individuals and businesses in which the government says rioters

killed 18 people.

An unknown number of Tibetans were killed by security forces in the aftermath. China claims Tibet has been part of its territory for more than seven centuries and regards the Dalai Lama as a dangerous separatist.

Many Tibetans insist they were essentially independent for most of that time and have protested what they regard as China's heavy-handed rule imposed after the People's Liberation Army's battled its way into the Himalayan region in 1950.

More recently, traditionally Tibetan regions of western China have been racked by a series of self-immolations by Buddhist clergy and lay people protesting Chinese rule and calling for the return of the Dalai Lama, now aged 83.

Despite the suffocating level of security, Tibet is an increasingly popular destination for tourists looking for mountain adventure and monuments to its unique Buddhist culture. □

US, North Korean envoys to meet in Hanoi ahead of summit



In this Jan. 23, 2019, file photo provided by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, right, meets Kim Yong Chol, who traveled to Washington to discuss denuclearization talks, in Pyongyang, North Korea.

Associated Press

Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — U.S. and North Korean special envoys are to meet in Hanoi, Vietnam's capital, to make final preparations for a second summit next week between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. U.S. Special Envoy for North Korea Steve Biegun was to arrive in Hanoi on Wednesday, U.S. officials said. No details of his schedule were immediately announced.

The two envoys met earlier this month in North Korea's capital to discuss details of the Feb. 27-28 summit. Biegun told South Korean

officials after that meeting that they discussed the concrete steps they wanted from each other, and that they would meet one more time before the summit to finalize the plans.

Trump and Kim met for their first summit in Singapore last June, during which Kim pledged to work toward the "complete denuclearization" of the Korean Peninsula, without providing a clear timetable or roadmap.

U.S.-led diplomacy aimed at getting North Korea to abandon its nuclear program in return for outside concessions has since made little headway.

Trump said Tuesday that he wants to see North Korea eventually give up its nuclear weapons program, but that he is not in any rush because relations between the two countries are good. He said his second meeting with Kim would be "very exciting," but did not say what he hoped to achieve. When he earlier announced the location of their second meeting, Trump showered praise on Kim, whom he used to derisively call "Little Rocket Man." Months after their Singapore summit, Trump said that Kim had written him "beautiful letters" and that the two "fell in love." □

Deadly crackdown stokes fear among protesters in Venezuela

By **FABIOLA SANCHEZ**

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Jhonny Godoy had taken to Twitter to proclaim his opposition to President Nicolas Maduro, posting a video that showed him running through the streets waving the national flag as protests erupted across Venezuela's capital.

Two days later, his family said, rifle-wielding special police agents wearing black masks stormed into their home in the Caracas slum of La Vega, pulled him outside and shot him to death.

The slaying of the 29-year-old was part of a crackdown that has spread fear among young protesters in poor neighborhoods of Venezuela, where a history of steadfast loyalty to Maduro has begun to crack amid hyperinflation and shortages of food and medicine. At least 43 people have been killed in the round of protests that began last month, when Juan Guaido, the head of the opposition-controlled congress, declared himself interim president of the crisis-racked country.

Human rights groups say some of those deaths appear to be targeted slayings by the National Police Action Force, or FAES, an elite commando unit created in 2017 for anti-gang operations. Rights groups say it is now acting against disaffected youths living in the slums.

"Maduro seeks to sow fear," said Rafael Uzcategui, coordinator of the respected rights group Venezuelan Education-Action Program on Human Rights, known as PROVEA. More than 700 opponents of Maduro have been arrested during the latest push by Venezuela's



Members the National Police Action Force, or FAES, an elite commando unit created for anti-gang operations, patrol the Antimano neighborhood of Caracas, Venezuela, Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2019.

Associated Press

opposition to oust the socialist leader, according to PROVEA and a crime monitoring group, Observatory of Social Conflict.

Maduro is facing more pressure than ever to cede power in the oil-rich nation. The Trump administration recently sanctioned Venezuela's state-owned oil company, squeezing the country's damaged economy even harder, and Guaido has been recognized as the country's rightful leader by the U.S. and dozens of other nations that argue Maduro's re-election to a second six-year term last year was fraudulent. A new round of sanctions Friday targeted four high-ranking intelligence officials, including the heads of the FAES commando unit and the feared SEBIN intelligence police.

The country has seen the largest protests since 2017, when 120 people died in clashes with national guardsmen and pro-government civilians who fired

on the masked demonstrators in middle-class neighborhoods. Now, critics say, Maduro is hitting back by sending security forces into the slums to try to suppress dissent.

PROVEA and Observatory say they recorded 35 deaths during a single week in January — most at night in poor neighborhoods — in addition to eight cases of apparent targeted killings by members of the elite commando unit.

Godoy was shot in the abdomen and foot, and a disposable diaper was shoved in his mouth, apparently to suffocate him, Sinai said.

She said the family believes his killing was linked to the video he posted on Twitter two days earlier.

"I'm going to continue demonstrating because I learned it from my cousin," said Sinai, who works for an opposition politician who hands out free food in the slums. "He died so we can have a free Venezuela."

The case gained special

prominence when a tearful Guaido met with Godoy's mother at her home and assured her that her son's death wouldn't be in vain. Later, during a news conference, Guaido blamed the elite police commando unit for the killing.

Authorities have not commented on the case. But it's not the first time the special agents have been linked to deadly operations. PROVEA released a report last month accusing the unit of involvement in more than 200 killings in 2018.

Human Rights Watch also detailed widespread abuses by members of Venezuela's security forces in reports published in 2014 and 2017. It quoted Foro Penal, a Venezuelan group that provides legal aid to detainees, as saying that more than 13,000 people have been arrested since 2014 in connection with anti-government protests.

The Prague-based CASLA Institute, headed by Ven-

ezuelan lawyer Tamara Suju, recently gave the U.N. International Criminal Court reports of 536 victims of torture in Venezuela since 2014, including 106 since the beginning of last year. Six nations also made the unprecedented move of asking the court to investigate Venezuela for possible crimes against humanity.

Socialist party chief Diosdado Cabello and Venezuela's defense minister, Gen. Vladimir Padrino Lopez, have denied the accusations of targeted killings. They insist the military follows the constitution and respects human rights.

The attorney general's office has not given a figure for those killed in the recent protests, though Attorney General Tarek William Saab told a local TV channel that eight members of the national guard and the army had been detained for the killings of four people in the rural states of Bolivar and Yaracuy.

Among those who died when the latest protests broke out Jan. 23 was 19-year-old Nick Samuel Oropeza. His family says he was last seen alive fleeing alongside other protesters through the dusty streets of the capital's Las Adjuntas slum as national guardsmen opened fire on people who had blocked streets with mounds of trash. Minutes later, he was found on the ground, his shirt drenched in blood.

A bullet destroyed his kidney and punctured a lung, said his mother, Ingrid Borjas, a 38-year-old lawyer.

"This needs to be investigated," Borjas said, her voice breaking with emotion. "Justice needs to be served for my son and for others." □

Costa Rica hunts priest on abuse charges as time runs out

Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP)

— A Costa Rican court has issued an international detention request for a priest who is thought to have left the country as the statute

of limitations threatens to run out on abuse charges facing him.

Mauricio Viquez allegedly abused two teenagers in 2003.

In Costa Rica, such charges

generally can't be pursued 10 years after a complainant's 18th birthday, and the alleged victims are nearly 28.

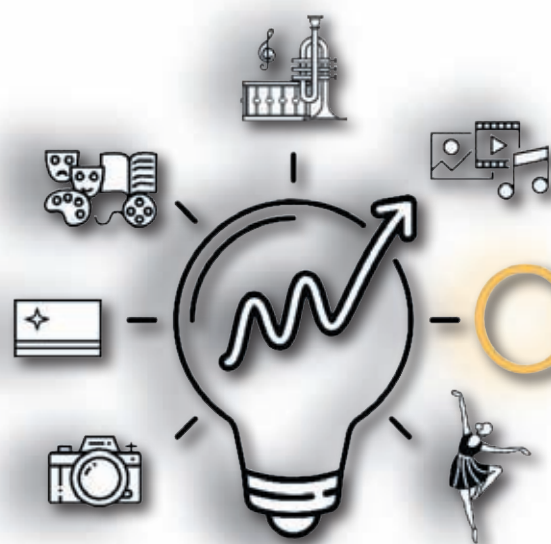
Viquez also faces internal canonical proceedings

in the Roman Catholic Church. It is believed he left Costa Rica after taking a leave of absence Jan. 7 from teaching duties at a local university.

San Jose Archbishop Jose

Rafael Quiros also faces a canonical investigation for allegedly covering up for Viquez. Quiros is not expected to attend a Vatican summit on abuse that begins Thursday. □

LOCAL



Creative Islander

By Thaïs G. Franken

Roslyn Schwengle: "I didn't choose the art life, art life chose me"

The Perspective of an Aruban Art Student in The Netherlands

MAASTRICHT — Creativity is not only the production of new things, but it can be art set into motion! With this in mind, we are debuting a special series called the Creative Islander "Artist Edition".

Over the upcoming months the Creative Islander will feature students, young professionals and/or creative workers whom are active in the Cultural and Creative scene in Aruba and/or abroad. The first Creative Islander "Artist Edition" will spot the light on Roslyn Schwengle, an Aruban art student in Groningen, The Netherlands. Learn more about Roslyn, and her passion for art and culture. Let's dig deep into her perspective of creating a Cultural and Creative Industries in Aruba. If you are a student and would like to study arts in The Netherlands, take note of some valuable tips to take going forward.

Roslyn Schwengle is a 20-year-old vibrant, talented and artistic young woman, currently studying Fine Arts in the multicultural city of Groningen. Her hobbies include swimming, biking, playing video games and obviously working on her artwork. Currently, she is practicing illustrations, photography and meditational drawings out of many other mediums. We asked Roslyn where her interest in the arts came from, and she stated that as a child, she was always interested in art and "luckily in 2013 on Dia di Himno y Bandera, Rietveld Academy on Aruba had an open day and I remembered saying with tears in my eyes; art is something I want to do for the rest of my life". With a new



outlook for life and a burning desire to follow her dreams, in 2015 Roslyn started Rietveld Academy of Fine Arts and Design Aruba (AFADA).

Even though struggling to finish a course in high school she enrolled with deep conviction that art would become her future. Taking the leap of faith, she assembled an impressive portfolio as a multidisciplinary artist and in 2017 she got accepted in Hanze Hogeschool in the Netherlands and achieved her first milestone being abroad; her propaedeutic degree. She is now a second-year student at Academy Minerva and is still learning new things every day.

Why did you choose to study what you are studying?

In the words of Roslyn; "I didn't choose the art life; the art life chose me". Her accomplishments so far are remarkable and show great

determination and courage. In 2018 she obtained the impossible, and successfully got accepted in to a "HBO" institution with a MAVO diploma at the age of 17. Even though a young woman, she wanted to see what her art was worth after making her portfolio and giving a 100% of her efforts. Not only did she get accepted beating the odd of being young, to her surprise she got accepted as exceptional talent. "This was a major opportunity that doesn't come around often and within a week I had to make the biggest decision of my life and leave everything I know to go into the unknown".

Continued on Page 14



Roslyn Schwengle: "I didn't choose the art life, art life chose me"

The Perspective of an Aruban Art Student in The Netherlands

Continued from Page 14

Her biggest challenge was achieving her propaedeutic degree, which clearly she has overcome with great recognition.

What is it like studying art in The Netherlands?

Living far away from home is an experience many Aruban students face once finishing their high school degree on the island. Like many other students, Roslyn took the opportunity to extend her horizon to Europe in hopes to achieve her dream of becoming the artist she knew to be inside. We asked Roslyn how it is like studying art in the Netherlands. All experiences have their good and less attractive aspects. Roslyn shared that "you always get to learn new things, you can meet great people through art, your study is so open you're the boss and nothing is a mistake". However, many students leave without a good perception of what student life is like in The Netherlands. So, many skills and responsibilities are left to be learned and developed throughout the journey. But, for Roslyn as an art student the pressure is bigger to perform well and to always have the best representation of her art. She expressed that "some people will never be accepting or understand your work because for them it does not make sense. But do not let this discourage you for you are still learning. Keep making what you are making and someone will recognize your work. In Fine Arts because you are your own boss, you often have no sense of direction because you don't know what to do with all the freedom and this can be stressful and create road-blocks".

Now that she lives in the Netherlands, she definitely sees the vast differences when it comes to cultural education and appreciation for all art forms. In creative aspect, "art is something valued here in the Netherlands because you can see it everywhere. Aruba together with AFADA (Rietveld Academy) has taken that step and it has helped me and a few others in our creative preparation and development. Sadly, it has come to my attention that it was closed and in my eyes this was a step back for Aruba. AFADA was a new opportunity for the jobless and young artists, drop outs, or it was a perfect opportunity for people that just wanted to give art a try". In the past, I have ex-

pressed deep concerns for closing the AFADA. The motivation behind the shutdown was related to funding. The current government felt that AFADA was costing too much money for the number of students it had, so the natural progression was to shut it down. The question I raise is not related to AFADA shutting down, but wondering why the government has not made an attempt to create an alternative option. For example, introduce a

what is being discussed by scholars and professionals; education (especially cultural education) starts at home, but should be reinforced at school. She continued mentioning her disappointment that the only "cultural education" she received was related to the Aruban National Flag and Anthem Celebration Day (March 18th) and "Dia di Betico" (January 25th). As she grew older less attention was put to the topic "Cultura di Aruba"



Fine Arts and Design Faculty at EPI. Nonetheless, Roslyn hopes to see further developments on the island to offer our students the opportunity to study arts.

Do you feel that you developed your creative skills and cultural knowledge growing up?

Interestingly enough, the question is how prepared was Roslyn to cross over to Europe? In past columns, we learned how important creative skills are becoming in the 21st century for future job development not only on Aruba, but internationally as well. Roslyn told me that she had a unique and special experience, by which she said; "I had the opportunity to grow up with Bernadina Growell, Mama di cultura and was even in one of her movies that she herself directed. My mother was active with her activities so I personally have a very close contact with the love for culture even if I didn't understand it as well as now. I didn't have much knowledge from school like I had at home". Roslyn confirms so much

other than those "known" days. Creative skills can be developed by involving kids in activities such as playing instruments, dance, sports, anything that can enable them to explore and develop their talents. Culture is more than celebrating a national holiday, it is the identity of a country's people, it is the heart of the society.

Developing a Cultural and Creative Industry on Aruba

Like many artists, Roslyn is very optimistic of Aruba developing a Cultural and Creative Industry. She finds it a positive development opportunity for the island she loves so much, however, she hopes this will especially reach schools and that historic people in this field that made a difference on our island could get that recognition for their work and contribution to the artistic scene on Aruba. She hopes for a cultural and creative industry that will not only be taught, but practiced, because let's note; "Aruba's culture is fading away" in her opinion as an Aruban artist. Numerous

potential sectors within the CCI are linked with education, so there is enough space for cultural development, especially focusing on the young generation that is growing up. Her personal fear is that the Aruban culture, she learned from her childhood will disappear, while expressing; "our culture is not being practiced enough. The generations stopped passing our cultural traditions. Parents can't teach their children something they don't know. And if it doesn't get passed down to their kids and practice, it will eventually die out".

Creative and Cultural education has been a concern on Aruba, however, a lack of vision and planning is now hindering the process of successfully implementing projects at all levels of education. For Roslyn, education is key and is essential for developing a CCI on the island. "Schools also play an important part in a children's upbringing. If we cannot depend on parents to teach our children and future generation about culture, let this be an opportunity for our schools (of all ages) to influence our young generation about the Aruban Culture". Roslyn's perspective on education stems from her opinion that it is never too late to start educating. She refuses to accept that Arubans are not interested in art. "Humans like to learn and if you enrich their interest from young they will forever have the interest growing up". In the end, she said; "in a nutshell, use our schools of all ages to become a new practice field for every school year and base for our cultural education. A person does not know something is important if he does not understand". Roslyn truly believes that if she did not grow up with a close contact to Aruba's culture (in this case Bernadina Growell) she would not be so inclined to art as she is today.

What tips can you give Aruban students who want to study the arts?

Roslyn voiced to not be afraid or make excuses for yourself. Being an artist for many is a calling, and a calling worth pursuing. "If art is something you want to do. Send a portfolio of your artwork to an art school and try it. If at the end it's not for you, you can always come back home". Reaching out to follow your dreams calls for tremendous courage, but it starts with only one decision.

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Roslyn Schwengle: "I didn't choose the art life, art life chose me" The Perspective of an Aruban Art Student in The Netherlands

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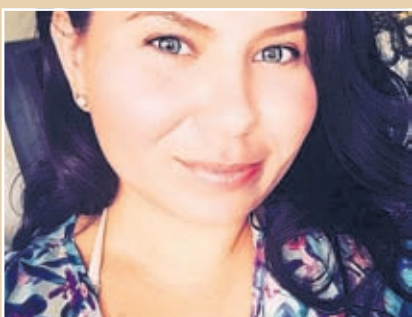
The decision to believe in yourself. The Cultural & Creative Industry is meant to be inclusive and to give equal opportunity for success.

What does your future look like?

As a student in The Netherlands, Roslyn continues to strive to grow into a phenomenal multidisciplinary artist. "I hope to better myself in different Art mediums because I am still experimenting. I hope to represent my Island Aruba and making our people interested in our culture again with my work but this is a lifelong project that I have yet to start". She is working hard each day to develop her skills as much as she can and to achieve her ultimate dream of creating art professionally. Lastly she said; "I do not know where this path will take me but I hope it's a good one. I am experiencing something

that every person has gone through, which is doubting if this is what they want. But, whenever I ask myself, 'what else can I do?' nothing else comes to mind. So, for now my goal is to finish this year and then see what comes my way, always one step at a time".

Roslyn does have a strong desire to go back to Aruba once she is finished with her studies. She expressed that all her projects are revolved around Aruba and her strong connection with her mother land. However, where opportunity knocks, doors open wide. Overall, Creative Islander would like to congratulate Roslyn with her achievements so far and thanks her for sharing her inspiring story. Please do check out her website linked below where most of her work is showcased or contact her on Facebook if you have any further questions. The best of luck in your future study and professional journey Roslyn! You are truly amazing and talented! □



Biography – Currently, Thais Franken is a 22-year-old Aruban student at the University of Maastricht (UM). She is studying a Master of Science in Public Policy and Human Development in collaboration with the United Nations University (UNU). Back home, on the beautiful island of Aruba she completed her Bachelor of Arts in Organization, Governance & Management (OGM) at the University of Aruba (UA). She successfully graduated and defended her thesis titled "Placing Culture and Creativity at the Heart of the Aruban Sustainable Development" on July 6th 2018. Thais is very passionate about topics such as sustainability, innovation, culture and creativity. Next to her academic interests, she enjoys reading, writing, dancing and cooking.

We'd Love to Take you Home

February is the month of Love. There are plenty of ways you can express your love and we hope you are able to share some of this love with an awesome rescue animal. Animals are the best kind of valentine. We certainly love what we can do thanks to all of you and we love hearing all your pupdates and after-meows full of loving stories and happy endings. And most importantly, we know that love can be life changing for a rescue animal.

Be My Valentine

This Month of Love please consider showing some love by sponsoring a spay or neuter because the stray animals of Aruba have been spreading a little too

much love. Spaying and neutering is a critical part of our mission and a necessary part of making a lasting change for the Animals of Aruba. Later this year in September we will be taking part in the United Dogs Aruba MASH spay and neuter campaign. Last year 400 Animals were sterilized and this year hopefully we can have another huge impact. A donation of \$20 will cover the cost of a spay or neuter during this event so please consider contributing to this effort. Thanks for sharing the love!

Behind the Scenes

This year is off to a great start and we are very excited to share the progress with you. We have completed the necessary fundraising

to begin building the fencing for the Adult Dog area at the Sgt. Pepper's Friends Home. This is a huge step in moving towards our final vision with this space. Having a space to rescue and rehabilitate adult dogs is an important part of our mission. Currently, we use dog hotels to board adult dogs as we rarely have enough foster homes. This space will allow us to keep costs down and allow adult dogs to have more socialization with volunteers who would like to visit the property.

Our major challenge for the start of the year is finding transporters on AA for adult dogs to the states. If you have AA miles and would consider donating to get animals to their for-





HELP US HELP THEM BY BECOMING A FLIGHT VOLUNTEER!

Sgt. Pepper's Friends is a non profit organization based in Aruba. As most of our rescues are adopted to the USA and Canada, we are always looking for flight volunteers to help bring our rescues home. This process is very easy and rewarding! We arrange everything, from booking and paying for the rescue on your flight, to meeting you at the airport with the dog or cat and its papers, supplies and connect you with the adoptive family who will be waiting for you at baggage claim upon arrival. Please email us your flight date, airline and schedule should you want to help bring one of our rescues to their forever home. You can also fill in our flight volunteer form on our website under "Get involved": <http://www.sgtpeppersfriends.com/flight-volunteer-form/>



We promise you that transporting is a very rewarding experience and one of the most valuable ways to make a difference.

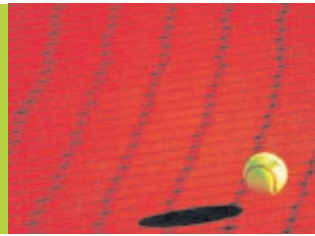
Email: info@sgtpeppersfriends.com
 Website: www.sgtpeppersfriends.com
 Instagram: @sgtpeppersfriends
 Facebook: Sgt. Pepper's Friends



ever homes, please email us! Finding transporters is always a challenge but we are starting to have more adult dogs and larger puppies that need to travel than transporters. Getting animals home quickly allows for a better transition to new homes and helps us rescue more animals as foster homes open back up.

The month of January has been another busy month with lots of new mom dog's that desperately needed our help. Ruby, Priya, and Freeza are all great mom-dogs that deserve a better life for themselves and their babies. Between these mom's and 2 other litters we have 34 new puppies already this year! □

SPORTS



Tiger Woods smiles during a press conference prior the WGC-Mexico Championship at the Chapultepec Golf Club in Mexico City, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

Associated Press

A new country, big excitement in Mexico over Tiger Woods

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Two small openings on both sides of a tree-covered path were packed with fans young and old, some with caps they wanted signed, others holding phones to capture the moment. They were screaming one word that translates in any language at the Mexico Championship. "Tiger!" Tiger Woods eventually walked by on his way to the range at Chapultepec Golf Club, and the volume got louder.

He is used to receptions like this wherever he goes, particularly since he made a full return to golf last year and ended the season with his 80th career victory. Take him somewhere new, such as Bellerive for the PGA Championship or Innisbrook for the Valspar Championship, and it can feel like a rock concert. This World Golf Championship brings another element. This is his first competition in Mexico.

Continued on Page 18

MILLER TIME



Miller leads Lightning past Flyers for seventh straight win

Tampa Bay Lightning's J.T. Miller celebrates his goal during the first period of an NHL hockey game against the Philadelphia Flyers, Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019, in Philadelphia. Tampa Bay won 5-2.

Associated Press
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Tiger Woods

Continued from Page 17

"I'm sure the energy will be up, people will be excited," Woods said Wednesday. "I think yesterday was a closed day, but there was a lot of people out there, a lot of members and a lot of kids that somehow didn't go to school. I'm sure it will be like that the rest of the week, and it will be a lot of fun for all of us."

It certainly will be an experience for Abraham Ancer, who will play with Woods and Bryson DeChambeau the opening two rounds. The Mexican player with the best world ranking gets into the 72-man field. Ancer, who grew up just south of the Texas border in Reynosa, played last year at No. 260 in the world. Now he is at No. 61, knowing he has an outside shot at cracking the top 50 in the world to earn a spot in the Masters. He said he idolized Woods and playing with him "will be something unforgettable."

If he stands too close to DeChambeau, that might be unforgettable, too. Mexico City is at roughly 7,800 feet altitude, though that depends on the definition of altitude, for DeChambeau

mentioned 9,000 feet.

So is 7,800 feet incorrect?

"Maybe," DeChambeau said with a grin. "It's more than just altitude. You could have an air pressure system that is like sea level coming through here and effectively change it. That's what I mean by that."

He also mentioned the slower decay of spin rate with no air resistance, but suffice to say the ball goes father this week for everyone.

Ian Poulter was preparing to hit driver on the 316-yard opening hole Wednesday when Dustin Johnson interrupted him.

"Isn't that going to fly over the green?" Johnson said.

Poulter looked up and replied, "I don't carry the ball 370 yards in the air."

Johnson played the front nine with Woods, and they were joined by defending champion Phil Mickelson and Jon Rahm. It was the final day of practice, and yet the right side of the fairway looked like Sunday at Chapultepec last year. That's the Tiger effect.

Mexico is the 21st country where Woods has competed, so he is used to the reaction from those seeing him for the first time.



Tiger Woods hits the ball during a practice prior the WGC-Mexico Championship at the Chapultepec Golf Club in Mexico City, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

Associated Press

Golf is still in its relative infancy in Mexico, though the appeal changes when one of the most recognizable athletes in the world is in town. Security has increased this year, most of that because of Woods.

Grupo Salinas took over sponsorship of this WGC in the summer of 2016, when Woods was recovering from two back surgeries. There was no guarantee if his game would get back, so news of his decision to play last week was massive for small sector of golf fans

in Mexico.

"Tiger definitely moves the needle," said Benjamin Salinas, the CEO of TV Azteca and lead voice for Grupo Salinas at the Mexico Championship. "When he announced he was coming, ticket sales leaped tenfold. He moves Mexico." Salinas announced two more chapters of The First Tee in Cancun and Puerto Vallarta, bringing the total to five chapters with the goal of one in every state. He said 100 boys and girls are involved, so it's a slow

start. Next on his list of priorities is building public facilities, which at some point would require government help in a country that worships soccer, baseball and the NFL. But they all know Tiger. "This event goes a long way to showcasing what the possibilities are," Woods said. "After that, it's trying to get access, trying to get the kids. We can get them excited about the game, but it becomes problematic when the excitement doesn't really turn into participation." □



Jordan Spieth reacts after missing a putt on the first hole during the final round of the Genesis Open golf tournament at Riviera Country Club on Sunday, Feb. 17, 2019, in the Pacific Palisades area of Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Spieth keeping patience amid worst slump of career

By **DOUG FERGUSON**
AP Golf Writer

MEXICO CITY (AP) — For a brief moment, Jordan Spieth had reason to believe he finally caught a good break with a bad shot. He was trying to hit a hard, low draw on the fifth hole of the final round at Riviera into a strong wind and a light rain. Instead, it caught the heel of his 3-wood and spun out to the right, smacked off a tree and went further back next to a fence, just beyond a white out-of-bounds stake.

Good news: The rules official said the stake was left there by accident.

"He said, 'That's not supposed to be there.' He literally picked up the white stake and said, 'This isn't

ours,'" Spieth said. "So I got it out."

Bad news?

"I still made triple," he said with a laugh.

He picked up his third major in the 2017 British Open when he his tee shot caromed off a spectator's head and into the dunes right of the 13th fairway at Royal Birkdale. He hit 3-wood after a penalty drop on the driving range, somehow escaped with bogey, and then went birdie-eagle-birdie-birdie to win.

That was 37 tournaments ago, and it's starting to feel even longer.

Coming off the first winless year of his pro career, Spieth made a last-minute decision to play the Sony

Open in Hawaii to shake off the rust from a busy offseason that included getting married. He missed the cut. Since then, he has opened with rounds of 65 at Torrey Pines, 66 at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am and 64 at Riviera. He has yet to break par on the weekend. His best result was a tie for 35th at Torrey.

The weekends have been an issue, and Spieth said as much after he finished his first round at Riviera.

"I got off to good starts my last couple events and I need to continue to work hard to improve each day here instead of getting complacent and assuming my game is there," he said. "It's still not quite there tee-to-green." □

Stricker appointed U.S. captain for Ryder Cup in home state

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

Steve Stricker paid his dues to become a Ryder Cup captain, and it had nothing to do with winning a major. He didn't make his first team until he was 41 in the 2008 matches at Valhalla, a rare U.S. victory, and played in two more. He spent the next six years in the back room as an assistant captain to Tom Watson, Davis Love III and Jim Furyk, and he was captain of the formidable U.S. team at the 2017 Presidents Cup. Stricker was appointed Ryder Cup captain on Wednesday, his seventh straight time taking part in the matches, this time in charge of an American team trying to win back the gold trophy in his home state of Wisconsin.

It was hardly a surprise with the 2020 matches going to Whistling Straits, an hour north of Milwaukee where Stricker was introduced Wednesday.

He still had his doubts when his name first was mentioned five years ago, aware each of the 28 previous American captains had won a major.

"I was thinking they're not going to have me. I haven't won a major," he said.

"But it kept going further along, me putting in the time last year, the Presidents Cup a couple of years ago, and the PGA of America and Ryder Cup committees saying they wanted to move off from that."

All that matters now is bringing the Ryder Cup back to America.

Tiger Woods, among three players on the Ryder Cup committee, said Stricker was a unanimous choice.

"Everyone knows he's such a nice guy, but beneath all of that exterior is this fieriness and this competitiveness, and he's also one of the more detail-oriented guys that we know," Woods said.

"I think that he'll be prepared, he'll be understanding and he's very good at communicating with the players and getting their



Green Bay Packers' Mason Crosby, left, presents a Packers jersey to Steve Stricker, after Stricker was introduced as the captain of the 2020 Ryder Cup team in Milwaukee, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

opinions but also putting his foot down when he has to."

Europe, which already has appointed Pádraig Harrington as its captain for the 2020 matches, has won seven of the last nine times, including a 17½-10½ victory outside Paris last year. That ended badly for the Americans, mainly from Patrick Reed saying in an interview with the New York Times that he blamed Jordan Spieth for them not playing together and captain Jim Furyk for benching him twice.

Stricker is all about looking ahead, and says he already has spoken to Reed. "We had a good conversation," Stricker said.

"I kind of asked him what to expect and he said, 'I've

got your guys' back, I'm there for the team.'

He's every bit committed. He knew what happened and was not comfortable with it, not happy with how that transformed. We're here about moving forward, pointing toward the next team, and I hope to have him as part of this team. We have a long ways to go."

The Mexico Championship, which starts Thursday, is the first tournament where Ryder Cup points can be earned for the U.S. team. Reduced points are available this year at the World Golf Championships, The Players Championship and the majors, with full points at every event starting in 2020 (extra for the majors). Stricker wept after each of

his 12 victories on the PGA Tour, so imagine being introduced in his home state as a Ryder Cup captain.

He didn't get one sentence out before he tried to choke back tears.

"I'm an emotional guy. I'm truly humbled," Stricker said.

"I'm very passionate about this competition. We want to win this more than ever. I want to help any way I can."

Europe never bought into the notion that Ryder Cup captains had to be major champions, though there also was a long stretch when Europe didn't have a long list of candidates. It took a U.S. loss in Scotland in 2014 for the players to finally take more control of the whole process, form-

ing a task force that gave players input along with the PGA of America.

Now it's about continuity, and that much was clear with Stricker's first appointment as an assistant — Furyk, whom he said would have been his choice even without the plan for immediate past captains to be assistants the next time.

Another change PGA of America president Suzy Whaley announced Wednesday was the timetable for qualifying and being a captain's pick. Qualifying will end after the 2020 BMW Championship, the second of three FedEx Cup playoff events, and then all four picks will be announced two days after the season-ending Tour Championship. □

Associated Press

Miller leads Lightning past Flyers for seventh straight win

By The Associated Press
PHILADELPHIA (AP) — J.T. Miller had a goal and an assist, and the Tampa Bay Lightning used a fast start to win their seventh straight, beating the Philadelphia Flyers 5-2 on Tuesday night. Alex Killorn, Mikhail Sergachev and Yanni Gourde also scored, and Ryan McDonagh added an empty-netter for Tampa Bay (46-11-4, 96 points), which entered 15 points ahead of Calgary for the most in the league. The Lightning were 16 points clear of Boston, the Eastern Conference's next-best team, beginning Tuesday.

Louis Domingue made 28 saves in place of Andrei Vasilevskiy, who rested after making 39 stops in the Lightning's 5-1 win at Columbus on Monday night. Domingue improved to 19-4. Oskar Lindblom and Travis Konecny scored for Philadelphia, which lost for just the third time in the last 15 contests.

BLUES 3, MAPLE LEAFS 2
ST. LOUIS (AP) — Ryan O'Reilly scored 34 seconds into overtime and St. Louis beat Toronto for its franchise-record 11th straight win. Jaden Schwartz and Colton Parayko also scored and Tyler Bozak had two assists for the Blues. Jordan



Tampa Bay Lightning's Louis Domingue, left, blocks a shot as Philadelphia Flyers' Sean Couturier looks for a rebound during the second period of an NHL hockey game Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019, in Philadelphia. Tampa Bay won 5-2.

Binnington made 29 saves to win his ninth straight, extending the longest winning streak in franchise history for a rookie goaltender. Zach Hyman and Auston Matthews scored third-period goals as the Maple Leafs erased a 2-0 deficit. Frederik Andersen made 38 saves. Hyman scored at 6:34 of the third, snapping the Blues' shutout streak at 233:50.

PREDATORS 5, STARS 3
DALLAS (AP) — Roman Josi

scored the go-ahead goal with 12:25 to play and added an empty-netter to lift Nashville over Dallas. Josi skated from behind the net into the slot, and his wrist shot hit defenseman Esa Lindell's skate and popped over goalie Anton Khudobin. Nashville won for the second time in six games to move within a point of Central Division leader Winnipeg. Dallas is 1-4-1 in its past six games. Filip Forsberg tied

Associated Press
the game at 3 with 1:44 left in the second period, 21 seconds after the Stars took their first lead with goals 26 seconds apart by Lindell on the power play and Tyler Seguin.

PENGUINS 4, WILD 3
NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Bryan Rust scored a tiebreaking goal midway through the second period and Pittsburgh continued its playoff push and avoided the embarrassment of being swept by lowly New Jersey.

Defenseman Chad Ruhwedel, Nick Bjugstad and Zach Aston-Reese also scored for Pittsburgh, which has won four of its last five in its bid to make the playoffs for the 13th straight year. The streak is the longest active playoff run in the NHL. Matt Murray made 33 saves, including 15 in the third period, to help the Penguins salvage the final game in the four-game season series. Jesper Bratt, Marcus Johansson and Miles Wood scored for the Devils, who had a two-game winning streak snapped. Keith Kinkaid had 24 saves in losing to the Penguins for the first time in four games this season.

DUCKS 4, WILD 0
ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Ryan Miller made 31 saves for his 44th career shutout as Anaheim beat Minnesota.

Jakob Silfverberg, Corey Perry, Ryan Kesler and Hampus Lindholm scored to help Anaheim get its third win in four games. Miller got his second win in two starts since returning from a knee injury that sidelined him for 24 games. His latest came two days after he set the all-time wins record for a U.S.-born goalie with a victory over Washington. He now has 376 for his career. □



Anaheim Ducks defenseman Cam Fowler, left and Washington Capitals right wing Devante Smith-Pelly vie for the puck during the first period of an NHL hockey game Sunday, Feb. 17, 2019, in Anaheim, Calif.

By STEPHEN WHYNO
AP Hockey Writer
The Washington Capi-

Associated Press
tals placed playoff hero Devante Smith-Pelly on waivers Wednesday ahead

Washington Capitals put playoff hero Smith-Pelly on waivers

of next week's NHL trade deadline. Coach Todd Reirden told reporters in Toronto the plan was to waive winger Dmitrij Jaskin, who did not practice, but the team changed course. If one of the other 30 teams claims Smith-Pelly, it would clear a roster spot and his \$1 million salary off the books for the defending Stanley Cup champion Capitals. General manager Brian MacLellan has said the team is shopping for a forward, and pending restricted free agent winger Andre Burakovsky is a po-

tential trade chip. The deadline is 3 p.m. Eastern on Monday. Smith-Pelly, 26, scored seven goals in last year's playoffs during the Capitals' run to the title. This season, Smith-Pelly hasn't scored a goal in 33 games, registered an assist in 17 games and has just eight points in 54 games. Also Wednesday, the San Jose Sharks claimed forward Micheal Haley off waivers from the Florida Panthers. Haley recently played parts of three seasons with the Sharks. The Philadelphia Flyers put Mike McKenna on waivers

to clear a glut of goaltenders. Philadelphia has three other goalies — rookie starter Carter Hart, recently acquired backup Cam Talbot and veteran Brian Elliott — on its 23-man roster. Veteran goalie Michael Leighton, who helped the Flyers reach the 2010 Cup Final, cleared waivers after signing for the rest of the season with the Vancouver Canucks. Anaheim Ducks winger Patrick Eaves was also among those who cleared waivers, and the Pittsburgh Penguins put forward Joseph Cramarossa on waivers after signing him. □

Padres buzzing over impending arrival of Manny Machado

By **JOHN MARSHALL**

AP Sports Writer

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP) — As workouts began to wind down, word began spreading across the San Diego Padres' practice fields at Peoria Sports Complex.

The Padres, a team stuck in a 12-year playoff-less rut, were on the verge of making their biggest free agent splash ever.

Manny Machado, the big-hitting, slick-fielding infielder, was going to be paid \$300 million to play for the Padres for the next decade.

The news Tuesday put noticeable pep in the players' step for the remainder of the workouts.

"There was definitely a buzz yesterday in the practice," first baseman Eric Hosmer said Wednesday. "Toward the last couple drills, the rumors were getting a little more true that Manny was likely coming here. The buzz is here and everyone is excited."

The buzz continued Wednesday as the Padres waited for the deal to finalize and Machado to arrive in the desert, which could come as early as Friday.

The Padres agreed with Machado on a \$300 million, 10-year deal, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press on Tuesday. The person spoke on condition of ano-



In this Oct. 20, 2018, file photo, then-Los Angeles Dodgers' Manny Machado (8) hits a single during the fourth inning of Game 7 of the National League Championship Series baseball game against the Milwaukee Brewers, in Milwaukee.

nymity because the agreement was subject to a successful physical and had not been announced.

The second-largest deal in baseball history signified a significant shift in direction for the Padres.

Machado's deal changes expectations. The goal of winning was no longer something three, four years down the road. The Padres want to win now.

San Diego made a bit of a splash last season, signing first baseman Eric Hosmer to a \$144 million, eight-year deal.

Adding Machado locks down the corners of the Padres' infield at least through the next five years, when Machado can opt out of his contract and become a free agent again.

"What we've talked about is if the right guys are out there, guys we feel are a fit in a long-term plan, we want to build it as we get going and add the right piece at the right time," Padres general manager A.J. Preller said. "You can wait for some of the young talent we've built up and maybe in three or four

years try to get the right guys who are out there at that time, but we feel as a group the pieces that fit short term, long term are out there and that's how you build a club."

The upgrades at the corners, along with the young talent already on the roster, have excited a long-suffering Padres fan base that's never experienced a World Series title nor seen a playoff series victory since the 1998 NLCS win over Atlanta.

Machado gives San Diego one of baseball's best play-

ers still in his prime.

The 26-year-old is a four-time All-Star and two-time Gold Glove winner. He's a career .282 hitter with 175 homers and 513 RBIs in seven big league seasons.

Machado hit .297 and set career bests with 37 homers and 107 RBIs last season with the Orioles and Los Angeles Dodgers.

Even if San Diego's brass couldn't talk about the deal because it wasn't finalized, Padres players couldn't contain their excitement.

"It's going to be very special," said shortstop Fernando Tatis Jr., who is listed as the No. 2 prospect in baseball. "He's an awesome guy, a great player and will be a great teammate."

Machado's addition strengthens San Diego's foundation for the future, particularly in the infield.

Hosmer had an underwhelming first season with the Padres, but two years ago hit .318 with 25 homers and 94 RBIs with the Kansas City Royals.

Tatis, son of a former major league player, is considered San Diego's shortstop of the future, though he has played just 2 1/2 months above A-ball. His major league debut will likely come this season and he could even crack the opening day roster with a stellar spring. □



Philadelphia 76ers' Joel Embiid (21) reacts during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the New York Knicks, Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2019, in New York. The 76ers won 126-111.

Associated Press

76ers All-Star C Embiid out a week with sore left knee

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Philadelphia 76ers All-Star center Joel Embiid will miss at least a week with a sore left knee.

Embiid underwent an MRI on Tuesday, which revealed no structural damage, and he will undergo physical therapy until he is evaluated again next week.

The 24-year-old Embiid is averaging 27.3 points and 13.5 rebounds in 54 games for the Sixers. He had 10 points and 12 rebounds in 23 minutes in last Sunday's

All-Star game.

Embiid was the No. 3 overall pick of the 2014 draft and missed his first two seasons with multiple foot and knee injuries.

"It's reached the stage where he just felt uncomfortable with it," Sixers coach Brett Brown said. "It's a little bit of tendinitis. It's stuff I think that's quite common, actually."

Brown said he did not believe the injury was connected to the All-Star game.

"Nobody needs to read

into anything here," he said. "This is an NBA athlete that has some soreness in the knee, has had an MRI and we all should move on. We'll miss him, obviously, playing-wise. But it's not anything that isn't completely pointed toward keeping him ready and especially ready when it matters most at the end of the year."

The Sixers are 37-21 and in fifth place in the Eastern Conference heading into Thursday's game against the Miami Heat.



In this Feb. 11, 2019, photo provided by Bill Kerig, Great Coach Founder and CEO Bill Kerig works as a volunteer hockey coach for the Salt Lake City Lady Lightning U19 hockey team, in Salt Lake City.

Associated Press

Coaching site builds list of those banned from U.S. Olympics

By **EDDIE PELLIS**
AP National Writer

An advocacy group has published a first-of-its-kind comprehensive list of coaches banned from Olympic sports, creating a database of nearly 1,000 people no longer allowed to work in the U.S. Olympic system because of sex-abuse allegations, doping positives and other criminal activities involving minors. The staff at greatcoach.com compiled the list using information from the U.S. Center for SafeSport, the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency and the more than 50 national governing bodies that oversee individual sports, most of which feed into the U.S. Olympic team. The website, designed by former pro moguls skier Bill Kerig, was originally started to help families find certified coaches who are best qualified to work with their kids. The SafeSport center and U.S. Olympic Committee have struggled to publish this sort of comprehensive list, even as the fallout from the Larry Nassar sex-abuse scandal has left both organizations vulnerable to lawsuits over allegations they didn't do enough to protect athletes under their purview. For years, the USOC let the NGBs operate under their own rules about who land-

ed on the lists and whether those lists were made public, and those rules varied widely between organizations.

In 2017, the SafeSport center opened and began publishing a list of banned coaches, but that list was restricted to those who had been banned since the center's opening. More recently, the center has begun incorporating backdated lists from the NGBs.

"As you might imagine, there are a lot of legal issues related to putting people's names out there" on a banned list, said Dan Hill, the spokesman for the SafeSport center.

Kerig said his group was in a different position than the SafeSport center and USOC, which allowed it to curate information already available and format it in a user-friendly way.

"We're a nimble, private enterprise, and we don't exist to serve multiple masters," Kerig said. "We exist because I want to make youth and amateur sports better and safer. I don't have sponsors. And we have really good technology." Because of legal and logistical concerns, the SafeSport website provides a database searchable by name, state or sport. The Great Coach website starts with its list that, as of Tues-

day, stood at 986 names, all of which can then be sorted by sport, by state and by specific names. Kerig said his website's list, which contains some names the SafeSport site does not, is still a work in progress, and is only as good as the various lists used to compile it. When Kerig launched the website late last year, it was not his plan to incorporate a banned list. He still wants the site to become a place for coaches and parents to interact — so parents can learn more about the adults they're leaving their children with, and coaches can share their experiences with each other and with parents.

Kerig, who founded and eventually sold the website rallyme.com and also coaches youth hockey in Utah, said he was shocked that almost every parent he talked to at the practice rink said they had not taken the relatively simple step of conducting an online search about their children's coaches.

"I even said to the parents of the kids I coach, 'Have you Googled me? I think I'm having an impact on your kid's life,'" Kerig said. "You should know as much as you can about me, or any coach you're going to drop your kid off with for 10 to 20 hours a week." □



Romania's Simona Halep celebrates after she defeated Ukraine's Lesia Tsurenko during a match of the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championship in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

Associated Press

Kvitova, Halep advance at Dubai Championships

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Former champions Petra Kvitova and Simona Halep overcame windy conditions to reach the quarterfinals of the Dubai Championships on Wednesday.

The second-seeded Kvitova beat American Jennifer Brady 7-5, 1-6, 6-3 despite struggling with her serve, while No. 3 Halep ousted Lesia Tsurenko of Ukraine 6-3, 7-5. A day after Naomi Osaka lost her first match since moving up to No. 1 in the WTA rankings, fifth-seeded Angelique Kerber was also upset in a 5-7, 6-4, 6-0 loss to Hsieh Su-Wei of Taiwan. Kvitova, the 2013 champion in Dubai, struggled badly in the second set when she failed to convert four break points in the opening game and

then was broken twice to trail 4-0 — double-faulting twice in each of those service games.

But the two-time Wimbledon champion saved two break points in the first game of the decider before breaking the American's serve to take a decisive lead. "The wind was just terrible today, to be honest. It was really difficult to find a way with it," Kvitova said. "I couldn't really serve well today at all. It's been big struggle for me." Halep had fewer problems in earning her second win over Tsurenko in two weeks, after beating her at the Qatar Open as well. Although she did have to break back when Tsurenko served for the second set at 5-4, winning the final 12 points to seal the victory. □

Top seeds Thiem and Fognini upset at Rio Open

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Top seeds Dominic Thiem of Austria, and Italy's Fabio Fognini and Marco Cecchinato were ousted in the first round of the Rio Open clay-court tournament on Tuesday.

No. 1-seeded Thiem lost to Serbia's Laslo Dera 6-3, 6-3, while the second-seeded Fognini was defeated by Canadian Felix Auger Aliassime 6-2, 6-3. Third-seeded Cecchinato, who won the

Argentina Open on Sunday, was also eliminated by Slovenia's Aljaz Bedene 7-5, 7-6 (1).

Fifth-seeded Joao Sousa of Portugal defeated Argentina's Guido Pella 6-4, 3-6, 6-4. Dusan Lajovic, the No. 6 seed, lost to Britain's Cameron Norrie 6-2, 6-1.

Argentina's Diego Schwartzman, who is the fourth seed and defending champion, had his match suspended by rain. □

Unlike men's World Cup, no open vote on women's event host

By **ROB HARRIS**

AP Global Soccer Writer

LONDON (AP) — FIFA will still decide the host of the Women's World Cup in secret, unlike the new open vote held last year for host of the 2026 men's tournament.

The 2023 Women's World Cup bidding process was launched Tuesday, and FIFA adopted many of the rigorous checks and scrutiny that prospective men's hosts now have to go through.

But the final decision is a very different process.

Following corruption investigations into the vote for men's hosts in 2018 and 2022, FIFA removed the decision from its ruling committee and gave it to all member associations. When it came to deciding the 2026 men's hosts last year, the votes were made public after the FIFA Congress chose the joint bid from the United States, Mexico and Canada over Morocco's entry.

FIFA trumpeted that "not a single decision is guarded away from public scrutiny" in men's World Cup hosting. But in March 2020 it will be the FIFA Council, a group of 37 people which meets in private, deciding where the women's top players will compete in 2023.

"FIFA's statutes explicitly stipulate that the selection of venues for the final competitions of all tournaments rests with the FIFA Council with the exception of the

FIFA World Cup, where their power lies with the Congress," world football's governing body said in a

letproof" by FIFA President Gianni Infantino, that were required of 2026 World Cup contenders.

those aspects of the men's showpiece hosting requirements.

"It's good to see that, as

States goalkeeper. Australia, Colombia, Japan and South Africa have already expressed an interest in bidding for the event in 2023. Australia and Japan both reiterated their intentions with statements on Wednesday.

"Australia is strongly aligned to FIFA's global vision for women's football, and committed to growing the game across the Asia-Pacific region," Football Federation Australia chairman Chris Nikou said. "With our strong record of successfully hosting major events, including the Asian Cup in 2015, we are confident of submitting a compelling bid for Australia."

The Japan Football Association had a similar response.

"By hosting the FIFA women's World Cup 2023, we hope to enhance the attractiveness and the value of women's football from Japan," JFA President Kohzo Tashima said.

FIFA chief women's football officer Sarai Bareman said she wants to see "how potential host countries will aim to promote the ultimate competition in women's football, and create a sustainable legacy that will inspire upcoming generations of young girls and women to get involved in the game."

The next edition is this year in France from June 7 to July 7, when the United States will be defending its title. □



In this Saturday, Dec. 8, 2018 file photo a view of the Women's World Cup trophy displayed at the women's soccer World Cup France 2019 draw, in Boulogne-Billancourt, outside Paris.

Associated Press

statement to The Associated Press.

FIFA asked countries to make an expression of interest in bidding by March 15, complete the bidding registration by April 16 and submit bid books by Oct. 4. No mention was made of bidders having to go through the key procedures, described as "bul-

Those included an assessment of human rights and risk reports for the countries, the publication of bid books, inspections of facilities and evaluation reports. After the AP asked why these criteria and process were not listed as being in place for women's World Cup bidding, FIFA said it would be emulating

with the 2026 FIFA World Cup bidding process, that human rights criteria are included, and that the bid documents, including the human rights strategy, is made available publicly," said Centre for Sport and Human Rights chief executive Mary Harvey, who won the inaugural World Cup in 1991 as a United

Pre-'93 NFL pension benefits group receives \$100K donation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two leading advocates for retired NFL players have teamed up in pushing for increased pension benefits for pre-1993 retirees.

The Pro Football Retired Players Association, a non-profit chaired by Hall of Famer Jim Brown, donated \$100,000 to Fairness for Athletes in Retirement, a non-profit advocating for pension parity in the upcoming negotiations over the league's next collective

bargaining agreement. The donation follows a pledge of NFL Players Association Executive Director DeMaurice Smith to prioritize retiree benefits in the next labor accord in 2021. Brown called pension disparity "the most pressing issue facing retirees," and FAIR said it will use the money to continue raising awareness about the plight of some 4,000 pre-1993 retirees.

"Despite paving the way

for the NFL to become what it is today, players of Jim Brown's era have been left behind with the lowest pension package among all other major U.S. sports leagues," FAIR president Lisa Marie Riggins said. "These players have never had league health insurance and retirement income is often consumed by medical expenses. With everything they have contributed to the league and the game, they deserve

the security of a pension they can survive on."

Addressing the disparity "would be a paradigm shift of historic proportions for a generation of beloved players," Riggins said.

The league and its union instituted "legacy benefits" in its last accord in 2011 that supplemented pre-93 retirees' pensions by between \$108 and \$124 monthly per credited season.

Their pensions continue to lag behind those of other

sports, however. A 10-year NFL veteran who retired before 1993 receives between \$24,000 and \$43,560 a year before tax at age 55, according to FAIR.

In contrast, FAIR said a Major League Baseball player who retired after 1980 following a 10-year career receives about \$200,000 yearly at age 62 and a 10-year NBA veteran who retired after 1965 receives about \$215,000 a year at age 62. □



In this Nov. 6, 2013 file photo, the Twitter bird logo is on an updated phone post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

Associated Press

Twitter tightens up EU political ad rules ahead of election

LONDON (AP) — Twitter said Tuesday it is tightening up rules for European Union political ads ahead of bloc-wide elections this spring, following similar moves by fellow tech giants Facebook and Google.

The social media company said it is extending restrictions already in place for federal elections in the United States.

Under the new rules, which will also apply in Australia and India, political advertisers will need to be certified.

It's also taking steps to increase transparency. Ads, in the form of "promoted tweets," from the past seven days will be stored in a publicly accessible data-

base showing how much was spent, how many times it was seen and the demographics of the people who saw it.

Facebook and Google have put in similar systems ahead of the EU vote in May, as the U.S. tech companies respond to criticism they didn't do enough to prevent misuse of their platforms by malicious actors trying to sway previous elections around the world. "This is part of our overall goal to protect the health of the public conversation on our service and to provide meaningful context around all political entities who use our advertising products," the company said in a blog post. □

California teen charged with creating 'Banana Plug' drug app

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A Northern California college freshman is facing felony charges for allegedly creating an iPhone app he dubbed the Banana Plug to sell illicit drugs.

Collin Howard on Tuesday pleaded not guilty to federal drug charges in San Jose after a grand jury indicted him on Feb. 14. Howard, 18, had earlier pleaded not guilty to similar drug charges in Santa Cruz County where he was arrested in his dorm room at the University of California, Santa Cruz on Nov. 28. The investigation began in November when a uni-



versity campus police officer noticed one of many posters hung on campus advertising an app called Banana Plug, prosecutors said. The school's mascot is the banana slug and plug is slang for a drug dealer. □



In this Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019, photo from left are the new Samsung Galaxy S10, the S10+ and the S10e during a product preview in San Francisco.

Associated Press

Samsung folding phone is different – but also almost \$2,000

By **MICHAEL LIEDTKE** and **ANICK JESDANUN**
AP Technology Writers

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Samsung unveiled a highly anticipated smartphone with a foldable screen in an attempt to break the innovation funk that has beset the smartphone market. But it's far from clear that consumers will embrace a device that retails for almost \$2,000, or that it will provide the creative catalyst the smartphone market needs.

The Galaxy Fold, announced Wednesday in San Francisco, will sell for \$1,980 when it is released April 26.

Consumers willing to pay that hefty price will get a device that can unfold like a wallet. It can work like a traditional smartphone with a 4.6 inch screen or morph into something more like a mini-tablet with a 7.3 inch screen.

When fully unfolded, the device will be able to simultaneously run three different apps on the screen. The Galaxy Fold will also boast six cameras: three in the back, two on the inside and one on the front.

After spending nearly five years developing the technology underlying its foldable-screen phone, Samsung is clearly hoping for a big payoff.

"Get ready for the dawn of a new era," declared DJ Koh, who oversees Samsung's smartphone division. The new phone, he said, "answers skeptics who said everything has already been done."

If Samsung is right, the Galaxy Fold will spur more people to upgrade their phones. Overall smartphones sales peaked in 2017; Samsung saw its smartphone sales fall 8 percent last year, based on estimates from the research firm International Data Corp. Worldwide, smartphone sales dropped 4 percent in 2018, according to IDC.

But most analysts see a limited market for foldable-screen phones, at least in the early going. Phones like the Galaxy Fold "are likely to sell to a very limited market of technology aficionados who like big screens and have big wallets," said IDC analyst Ramon Llamas. Samsung also released new Galaxy S10 phones that boast fancy cameras, sleek screens covering the entire front of the devices and at least 128 gigabytes of storage — important features to consumers shopping for phones.

But those improvements aren't a big leap from the smartphones released during the past few years by

Samsung, Apple and other top manufacturers.

"These phones are all variations on a theme we have already seen," Llamas said. "It's the same song with a slightly different verse."

With the pace of smartphone innovation seemingly locked in baby steps, consumers are holding on to their existing devices for longer periods than they have in the past. Compounding that reluctance to upgrade is smartphone sticker shock, which the Galaxy Fold seems unlikely to alleviate. Prices for some existing phones models have soared above \$1,000. Samsung is offering a slightly smaller S10 model for \$750 in an attempt to make smartphones more affordable, but the higher-end models sell for \$900 and \$1,000.

Two of Samsung's new models, the S10 and the S10 Plus, are largely incremental upgrades of last year's S9 and S9 Plus, although they are designed differently. They are about the same size as last year's models, but will have more display space, as Samsung found additional ways to eliminate waste around the edges. As a byproduct, the top right of the display has a circle or oval cut out for the front-facing cameras. □

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Walmart flexes in the fourth quarter, beats all expectations

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Walmart defied a gloomy government retail sales report for December, delivering fiscal fourth-quarter profits and sales that beat Wall Street expectations.

The world's largest retailer also enjoyed another quarter of surging e-commerce sales during the critical holiday period as it expanded its online assortment and services. Shares moved higher in afternoon trading Tuesday.

The report provides more evidence that Walmart's efforts to expand online grocery services, including curbside pickup and home delivery, are widening the gap between itself and traditional rivals while at the same time holding its own against online leader Amazon.

The strong performance from the world's largest retailer is especially encouraging after a very weak December retail sales report last week from the U.S. Commerce Department led many to fear that consumers had gone into hiding. Some analysts even questioned the reliability of the government report.

The data, delayed by a government shutdown, hinted that a volatile stock market, a government impasse, and a trade war with China had taken their toll on the American psyche. That, at least in Walmart's



This Nov. 9, 2018, file photo shows a checkout scanner at a Walmart Supercenter in Houston.

Associated Press

case, appears to be untrue.

Walmart executives said Tuesday that its customers are benefiting from a stronger economy. The company also said that its sales got a lift from the government issuing February checks to Supplementary Nutrition Assistance Program recipients early in the wake of the government impasse.

"The consumer still feels pretty good," Brett Biggs, Walmart's chief financial officer told analysts on an earnings call Tuesday, ticking off economic tail winds like lower gas prices and rising wages. "A number of things are still working. We are watching, making sure that we are in the right place with the customer. No matter the environment,

we are able to react."

Walmart and other retailers are also benefiting from the woes of others. Toys R Us and Bon-Ton Stores have gone out of business, and the list of casualties keeps getting longer. This week, Payless ShoeSource began liquidation sales at roughly 2,500 stores in North America. Sears is shrinking and J.C. Penney is floundering. A diverse roster of retailers including Macy's, Target and Home Depot are slated to report fiscal fourth-quarter results in the next few weeks. Target had reported strong holiday sales in January while several other department stores including Macy's offered disappointing results.

Walmart posted strong sales across a wide range

of products from toys to groceries and electronics. That helped sales at stores open at least a year rise 4.2 percent at its U.S. name-sake stores, following a 3.4 percent pace in the fiscal third quarter. The figure excludes sales from fuel.

Since buying Jet.com more than two years ago, Walmart has been expanding online by acquiring brands and adding thousands of items. Walmart now offers grocery delivery service at 800 stores and grocery pickup at 2,100 stores. Walmart has revamped its website with a focus on fashion and home furnishings. That all helped to drive a 43 percent increase in e-commerce sales in the quarter, matching the pace from the pre-

vious period. Walmart's online U.S. sales are still a fraction of Amazon's online global merchandise empire, which reached \$122.98 billion last year. Walmart's U.S. online sales for the first nine months of its latest fiscal year reached \$10.2 billion. The discounter hasn't yet disclosed the year-end figures. But it has rapidly expanded its services online fast.

"Pleasingly, Walmart is successfully broadening its online base of customers and is now attracting both younger and more affluent demographics," wrote Neil Saunders, managing director of GlobalData Retail, a retail research firm in a published report. "These are early days, but Walmart is now a serious contender in the online space and presents a much more serious threat to Amazon than it did 18 months ago."

Walmart had a fourth-quarter profit of \$3.69 billion, or \$1.27 per share. Earnings, removing one-time items, were \$1.41 per share, which is 8 cents better than analysts had expected, according to a survey by Zacks Investment Research. The Bentonville, Arkansas, company had revenue of \$138.79 billion, also better than expected.

The company's Sam's Club division had a 3.3 percent increase in revenue at stores opened at least a year during the fiscal fourth quarter. □

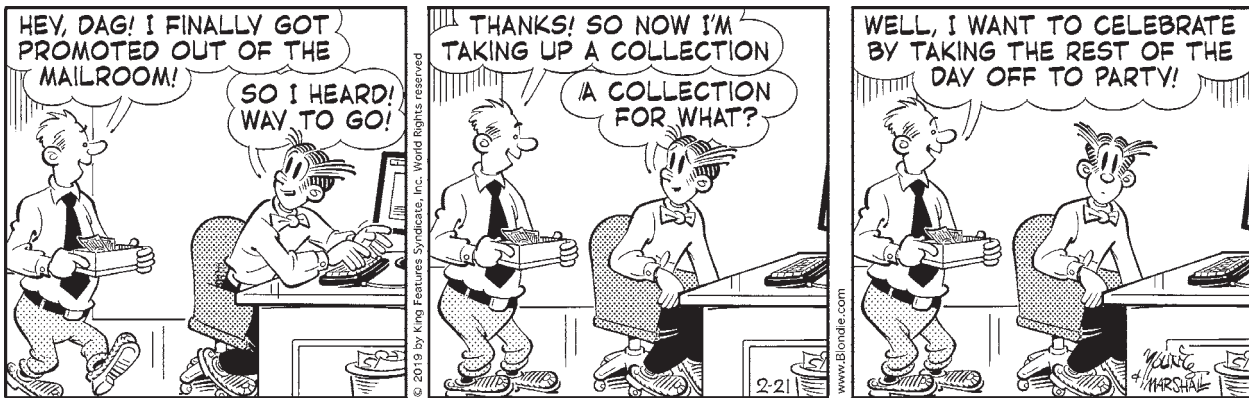
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



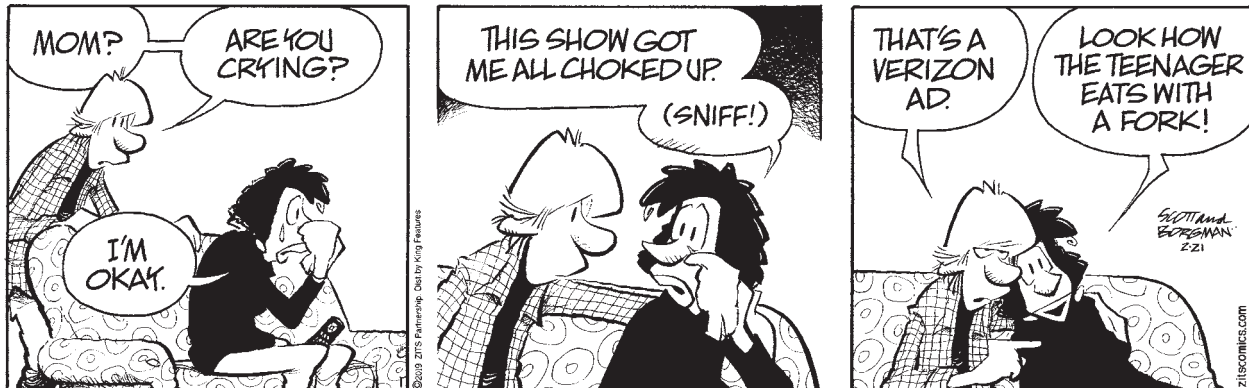
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	9			3	6			7
							6	3
1						5		2
6	4				1			
				8				
			9				2	5
3		5						9
7	1							
2			1	7			8	

Difficulty Level ★★★

2/21

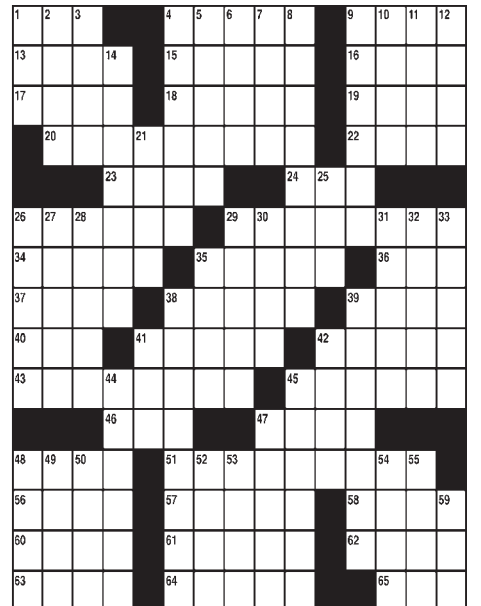
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	7	4	2	1	5	9	3	8
8	1	9	3	7	4	6	5	2
2	5	3	9	6	8	1	7	4
4	8	6	7	5	2	3	1	9
9	2	5	6	3	1	8	4	7
7	3	1	8	4	9	5	2	6
1	4	7	5	9	6	2	8	3
5	9	8	4	2	3	7	6	1
3	6	2	1	8	7	4	9	5

ACROSS

- 1 Speedometer letters
- 4 Underneath
- 9 Run-in
- 13 Pore over
- 15 Popeye's love
- 16 Additionally
- 17 Rescue
- 18 Judge's mallet
- 19 Deadly creatures
- 20 La-Z-Boys
- 22 ___ up; confesses
- 23 Committed perjury
- 24 Weather forecast
- 26 Indian & Arctic
- 29 Short negligee
- 34 Dangerous fish
- 35 Court event
- 36 Lowe or Estes
- 37 Didn't ___ for; disliked
- 38 Grieve
- 39 City in Texas
- 40 Toward a ship's stern
- 41 City in England
- 42 Hell's ruler
- 43 Practice
- 45 Scarcely
- 46 CBS competitor
- 47 Part of the leg
- 48 Hopping insect
- 51 Crucial
- 56 Sandy soil
- 57 Banquet
- 58 Derriere
- 60 Monster
- 61 Bring together
- 62 ___ other; one another
- 63 No longer sick
- 64 Of the moon
- 65 Fight result, for short



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/21/19

4 Namesakes of

Bacal's love

5 African antelope

6 "___ and Let Die"; 007 film

7 Take ___; assume control

8 Cardiff resident

9 Wooden shoes

10 Farm machine

11 As strong ___ ox

12 Throw

14 State openly

21 Piece of a chain

25 Wesson product

26 Boxer De La Hoya

27 Rub enough to make sore

28 One of the planets

29 Vulgar

30 Broadcasts

31 Give a speech

32 ___ yokel; small-town resident

33 Blackish wood

35 Ballerina's support

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

N	A	P	A	S	C	O	T	S	L	E	W
S	O	D	A	S	P	A	C	E	T	O	T
A	N	D	Y	L	I	T	T	L	E	R	O
P	O	I	D	A	N	E	S	L	I	T	H
C	L	I	E	N	T	D	E	F			
R	I	O	T	S	C	H	E	A	T	M	O
I	N	N	S	S	H	E	A	F	S	P	U
B	E	A	G	O	U	R	D	T	E	R	R
S	L	A	L	O	M	H	O	N	E	S	T
B	A	N	B	O	N	D	S				
O	S	C	A	R	A	M	S				
W	H	I	T	E	H	O	U	S	E		
N	O	T	E	A	N	G	E	L	O	V	E
S	E	E	S	M	E	S	S	Y	B	E	D

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2/21/19

DOWN

- 1 Married woman, for short
- 2 "...and a partridge in a ___ tree"
- 3 "___ I got news for you!"

38 Compassionate

39 Armed conflict

41 Scientist's workplace

42 ___ and pepper

44 Tooth coating

45 Exchange goods

47 ___ Rica

48 Move along smoothly

49 Theater box

50 British noble

52 List of dishes

53 Agony

54 ___ as a pin

55 ___ on; attach to

59 Fraternity letter

Dog shoots man: German court rules owner not fit for license

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — A German court has ruled that a dog owner isn't fit to carry a firearms license after his dog shot him with a rifle. The Munich administrative court on Tuesday dismissed the man's appeal against an earlier decision by Bavarian authorities to withdraw his license to own a rifle, as well as his hunting permit. The decision followed a 2016 incident in which the man, a passionate hunter, was shot in the arm after his dog managed to release the trigger on a loaded rifle that was lying in his car. The court ruled the hunter couldn't be relied upon "because it must be assumed that he will handle firearms and ammunition carelessly in future as well." The man, whose name wasn't released, can appeal the verdict. □

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Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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Northern Red Sea coral reefs may survive a hot, grim future

By **ALON BERNSTEIN and ISABEL DEBRE**

Associated Press

EILAT, Israel (AP) — As the outlook for coral reefs across a warming planet grows grimmer, scientists in Israel have discovered a rare glimmer of hope: The corals of the northern Red Sea may survive, and even thrive, into the next century. There is broad scientific consensus that the effects of climate change have devastated the world's reefs, recently ravaging large swaths of the Great Barrier Reef in Australia, one of the natural wonders of the world.

The carbon dioxide that humans pump into the atmosphere spikes the temperature and acidity of seawater, which both poisons the marine invertebrates and hampers their growth at alarming rates, according to studies published last year in the journal *Science*. Experts estimate that half of the corals that existed in the early 20th century have died. But the corals at the northernmost tip of the Red Sea are exhibiting remarkable resistance to the rising water temperatures and acidification, according to recent research conducted by the Interuniversity Institute for Marine Sciences based in Eilat. Experts hope the lessons learned in the Red Sea can help coral reefs elsewhere in the world.

"Corals worldwide are dying and suffering at a rapid pace, but we have not witnessed a single bleaching event in the Gulf of Aqaba," said Maoz Fine, an expert on coral reefs at Bar-Ilan University and director of the research.

Warmer water causes corals to eject the brightly

colored plants that serve as their primary food and oxygen source. This causes reefs to "bleach," or take on a bone-white pallor that

study, published this month in the *Journal of Experimental Biology*, found further cause for optimism: The coral species' thermal resis-

their tolerance levels may lend corals physiological benefits. "All corals were obliterated except for the best genotypes, the win-

tions manager for the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coral Reef Watch, who was not a part of the study. "Entirely new ecosystems that can withstand climate change would be established."

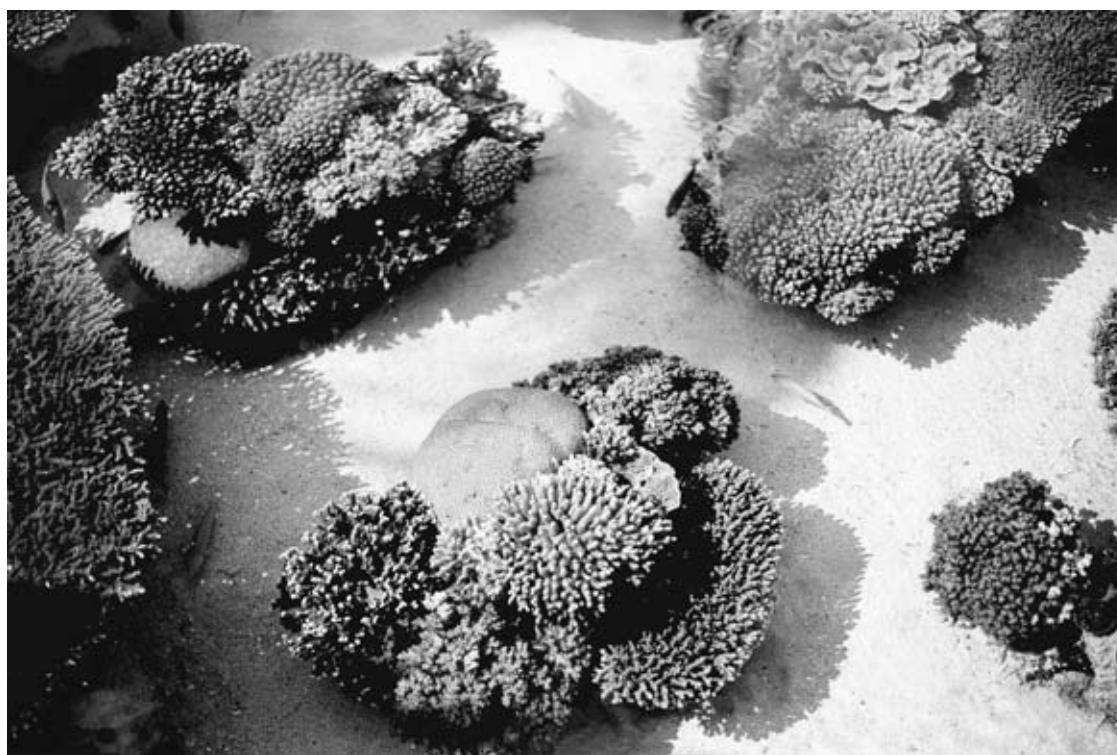
The U.S. agency has honed such restoration techniques in Florida, where reefs play a critical role in softening the blow of hurricanes.

Jessica Bellworthy, a doctoral student in Fine's lab, said that while it's too soon to tell whether Gulf of Aqaba corals would retain their resilience if multiplied and transplanted to other environments, it's a "direction we could eventually take our data."

Fine likened transplanting corals to "playing God," saying that although such human intervention has become well-established, it carries ecological risks and raises ethical questions. For instance, should humans be introducing new species where there are natives?

But some scientists contend that only a hands-on response can address accelerating reef mortality rates. From 2014-2017, corals experienced the most widespread and damaging "bleaching event" in global history, said De La Cour. Experts often compare reefs to rainforests when trying to convey their stunning diversity of life. "If you lose reefs, you lose everything that depends on them," said Michael Webster, executive director of Coral Reef Alliance, a San Francisco conservation group. Reef death not only carries dire consequences for wildlife, but also for the homes, health and livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people: those who fish, work in tourism, dwell on islands made of coral or rely on reef protection from coastal erosion.

"The survivors in the Gulf of Aqaba are only going to become even more essential to us over the next 100 years," said De La Cour. "Coral refuges show us that species can adapt. It gives us hope." □



In this Monday, Feb. 11, 2019 photo, healthy corals are exhibited at the marine observatory in the Red Sea city of Eilat, southern Israel.

Associated Press

often portends mass mortality.

While other hardy coral species can be found in the Indian and Pacific Oceans, "there's nowhere else in the world that reefs are this far away from their bleaching thresholds," said Fine. Plenty of other refuges remain unknown, but "this is the only spot we know of with a warranty ensuring these reefs stay safe for the next several decades," he said. On a recent day at the lab, Fine examined coral fragments in water treated to simulate future global warming scenarios, pointing to their ruddy color as a sign of good health. The Gulf of Aqaba has become a refuge for tough corals that are projected to outlast far worse future conditions. Fine's latest

tance carries over to their offspring, indicating that future generations will also remain immune to bleaching, with implications that could extend beyond this spot of the Red Sea.

Fine's research credits northern Red Sea coral resilience to a giant natural selection event that occurred some 18,000 years ago. As glaciers retreated at the end of the ice age, reefs moved in to recolonize the southern part of the sea, where temperatures ran exceedingly high. Only corals that could bear the heat managed to reach maturity and migrate north, where they resettled in conditions several degrees cooler than their thermal threshold. Further research is underway to determine how existing in temperatures below

ners of the climate change lottery," said Fine. Today, these hardy corals continue to survive as Red Sea waters warm, only showing signs of heat stress at six degrees above the summer maximum sea temperature.

"Not only does this give us an incentive to protect this special refuge as much as possible, but also allows us to find hints as to the most important genes for thermal resistance," he added. Picking out winning genes can contribute to an urgent worldwide push to restore and repopulate dead reefs. Some cutting-edge labs in Hawaii and Australia have even started cross-breeding the corals that survived or recovered from the mass bleaching of their reefs to create gene banks of "super-corals" that they hope can survive future elevated temperatures.

"If corals are surviving and reproducing in the Gulf of Aqaba under stressful conditions, and in the central and southern Red Sea they're not, we can reseed the hardy corals in nearby bleached areas," said Jacqueline De La Cour, opera-

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Costume Designers Guild honors Ruth E. Carter, Glenn Close

By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.
Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Ruth E. Carter may be receiving Oscar recognition for her costume designer work on "Black Panther," but she told a packed room at the Costume Guild Awards on Tuesday night that she has created wardrobes for other superheroes throughout her illustrious career.

"After working on 'Black Panther,' you all asked me 'How did it feel experiencing designing my first superhero?' Truth is, I've been designing superheroes my entire career," she said after receiving a career achievement award at the guild's 21st annual awards show at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. The union celebrated the year's outstanding work in film and television highlighting the intricacies of contemporary, period and sci-fi or fantasy designs.

While accepting a career achievement honor, the designer rattled off several films she worked on including "Malcolm X," "Amistad," "Selma," "Marshall," "Do the Right Thing" and "Meteor Man."

"These same heroes and sheroes who helped shape our country helped me



Halle Berry presents the career achievement award at the 21st annual Costume Designers Guild Awards at The Beverly Hilton Hotel on Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

build my career and voice in the Afro-future," said Carter, who was also won a competitive award for "Black Panther." She could become the first African-American on Sunday to win an Oscar for best costume design.

"I am constantly inspired and carrying a message of perseverance and hope that each character shares from film-to-film," she added. "There are pieces of me from my heart in each

costume."

The 18th century ensembles in "The Favourite" and the glitzy costumes in "Crazy Rich Asians" were also selected as the best costumes of the year Tuesday. Carter and fellow Oscar nominee Glenn Close received special honors at the ceremony.

Halle Berry and Danai Gurira presented Carter with the career achievement award. The costume designer thanked "Black

Panther" director Ryan Coogler, longtime friend and director Spike Lee and those who worked with her to create the costumes for the Marvel superhero film. Gurira, who starred in "Black Panther" as one of Wakanda's elite warriors, yelled out "This is the year of Ruth Carter" as Coogler looked on and smiled from his seat. Berry made a Wakanda Forever crossed-arm gesture before she called Carter "strong, re-

spectful, opinionated and well-respected."

"Ruth taught me the importance of a costume and how it was a portal into bringing my character to life," said Berry, who was dressed by Carter in the 1991 film "Jungle Fever."

Close was honored with the spotlight award as actor Michael Chiklis praised the actress for her ability to captivate audiences through her roles. He said "You sit up a little straighter. Your senses sharpen, because you know she's about to make everything happen."

Chiklis also said Close saved nearly 800 costume pieces she has worn in films, so they won't get destroyed or sold to rental companies. The actress donated some of her costume collection to the Indiana University, where it will be preserved in an archival facility.

"My costumes have always been much more to me than whatever character they are designed for," said Close, who is nominated for an Academy Award for best actress for her role in "The Wife." "They are all beautiful masterpieces created by a team who takes as greater pride in their craft as I do in mine. You make what I do possible." □

Tom Rosenstiel looks at murky politics after attack

By WILL LESTER
Associated Press

"The Good Lie" (Ecco/HarperCollins), by Tom Rosenstiel

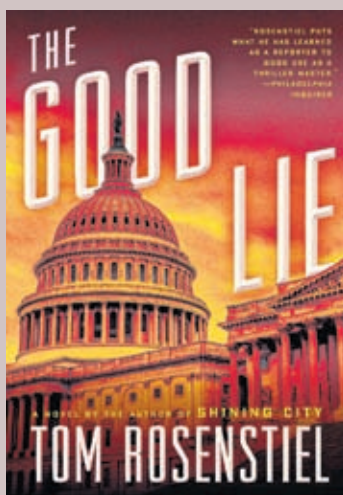
Ex-Army investigator and political fixer Peter Rena and his partner, Randi Brooks, are taking on their next adventure in the swamp of Washington, D.C., and the central event is a deadly attack on a diplomatic complex in North Africa. This may sound familiar to many.

The team of Rena and Brooks quickly find themselves assigned by the president to find out what happened and why. There are careers at stake, from the White House on down,

as well as foreign policy goals of an administration winding up its term.

Author Tom Rosenstiel, a veteran reporter and observer of the Washington political scene, has carefully researched — with the help of other Washington veterans — how such political fiascos can tie the capital city in knots.

His effort to realistically capture such an unfolding event requires the reader's attention, especially to the many characters introduced early. Recreating a convoluted disaster like this diplomatic attack and the subsequent "Star Chamber" inquiries, with its paralysis of guilt and suspi-



This cover image released by Ecco shows "The Good Lie," by Tom Rosenstiel.

Associated Press
cion, is no easy feat. Rosenstiel, with his vivid descriptions of the city, its neighborhoods and halls

of government, as well as the interplay of the powerful people there, is up to the task.

Rena and his team of investigators rapidly learn that the circumstances of the attack are very different than first reported — and very troubling.

As they interview more veterans of the intelligence business and navigate through the churning political waters, Rena, Brooks and their assistants uncover more disturbing details about the diplomatic attack.

Rosenstiel seems intent on exploring the many different kind of scandals and misadventures that can

unfold in the nation's capital.

In the first Rosenstiel book about Rena and Brooks, "Shining City," he traces a more straightforward story about the vetting of a Supreme Court choice and the background threat of a shadowy killer. In "The Good Lie," he takes on the tougher, more complex task of looking at how the capital city descends into paranoia after the deadly diplomatic attack in North Africa.

Watching what Rena and Brooks take on next, if they have another adventure ahead of them, should be both interesting and an education. □

Rolling in the deep: HBO film looks at roller skate culture

By **MARK KENNEDY**
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — First-time documentary filmmakers Tina Brown and Dyana Winkler lugged their cameras to Central Park in New York one day to capture the last few people still passionate about roller skating. Rinks across the country were gone. The activity seemed dead. “We were shooting a piece about what we thought was the end of the era of skating with what we thought were the last men standing,” said Winkler. “We thought, ‘Who roller skates anymore?’” They may have come for a funeral but they found something else entirely. Two young African-American skaters approached them and asked them what they were doing. “They said, ‘Skating’s not dead. It just went underground,’” Winkler recalled. Winkler and Brown decided to go find it. Five years and 500 hours of footage later, they’ve emerged with the HBO film “United Skates,” a fascinating look at the rich African-American subcul-



This image released by HBO shows a scene from the documentary “United Skates,” premiering Feb. 18, 2019 on HBO.

ture of roller skating, which is under threat. “We hope that our viewers will learn something they didn’t know about, fall in love with something they didn’t know about, and maybe be compelled to care enough to protect it,” Winkler said. The documentary explores how roller rinks were the sites of some of the earliest fights of the civil-rights era and how they later became the launching pads for hip-hop artists. It shows how unofficial segregation lives on, with so-called “adult nights” that feature metal detec-

tors and masses of police, something not used when whites come to skate. It also shows how rinks are being closed as communities chase more revenue by rezoning for retail use. “There’s a bigger story to tell and we can use the joyous beauty of roller skating as the sugar to spoon-feed some of these bigger issues. That’s when we started to peel back the layers,” Winkler said. That day in Central Park changed the trajectory — and the lives — of the filmmakers. The young skaters they met invited the women to come and see what had happened to skating. And so they got on a night bus to Richmond, Virginia. The duo — one Australian, one American — ap-

proached a roller rink at midnight. It was far from funeral: There was a line down the block, music was pumping, skaters were dressed to kill and everyone seemed to know each other. They soon learned that each city had different skate dance styles — Baltimore has “Snapping,” Atlanta has the “Jackknife” and in Texas you do the “Slow Walk” — and how such a tight fellowship among skaters is forged that they will fly across the country to get together. Embraced by the community, Winkler and Brown never paid for a hotel room or car rental or a meal while crisscrossing the country interviewing some 100 skaters. The skaters themselves opened their homes and drove them around. The documentary features interviews with hip-hop legends like Salt-N-Pepa, Coolio and Vin Rock of Naughty by Nature. John Legend is an executive producer and the film received the Documentary Audience Award at the Tribeca Film Festival. The cameras also follow Reggie Brown, a roller-skating ambassador and community advocate. In a phone interview, he ex-

plained that roller skating teaches patience, athleticism, purpose, positive reinforcement, determination — and getting up after a fall. “Roller skating is a little bit more than going in circles on a couple of wheels,” he said. “It’s fun. It’s an enjoyable exercise. It’s healthy and there are a lot of great benefits. But the socioeconomics benefits to roller skating are higher than anybody can think of.” “Name me another activity that’s family-affordable, that you can go to on a Saturday and take five members of your family and you can skate for four hours and everybody can have a good time and exercise.” “United Skates” is a documentary made partially by the subjects themselves. Winkler and Brown, who began the project as beginner skaters, enlisted skaters to shoot scenes and used their rink skills to help capture footage. “They would push us from behind at these high speeds and we would just focus on the camera and just pray,” said Winkler. “It really was collaboration. They like to say we taught them how to shoot and they taught us how to skate.” □

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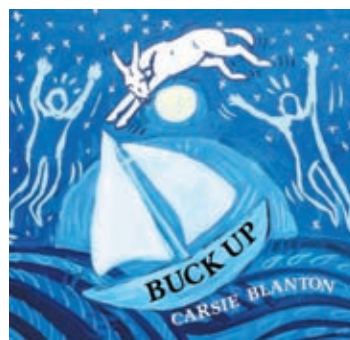
FEBRUARY 21 - 27

<p>NEW THIS WEEK!</p> <p>DRAGON GERARD BUTLER CATE BLANCHETT HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON: THE HIDDEN WORLD WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-THU 4:15 6:30 8:45 FRI 4:15 6:30 8:45 11:00 SAT 2:00 4:15 6:30 8:45 11:00 SUN 2:00 4:15 6:30 8:45 SPANISH SAT-SUN 2:05 [PG]</p>	<p>GREEN BOOK VIGGO MORTENSEN MAHERSHALA ALI MON-FRI 3:50 6:00 SAT-SUN 3:20 6:00 MON-SUN 6:55 [PG-13]</p>
<p>FIGHTING WITH MY FAMILY DWAYNE JOHNSON FLORENCE PUGH MON-THU 4:40 7:00 9:20 FRI 4:40 7:00 9:20 11:40 SAT 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20 11:40 SUN 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20 [PG-13]</p>	<p>ALITA: BATTLE ANGEL ROSA SALAZAR CHRISTOPH WALTZ WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-THU 5:15 7:50 FRI 5:15 7:50 10:25 SAT 2:40 5:15 7:50 10:25 SUN 2:40 5:15 7:50 [PG-13]</p>
<p>WHAT MEN WANT TARAJI P. HENSON TRACY MORGAN WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-THU & SUN 4:25 9:30 FRI-SAT 6:50 8:40 11:10 MON-THU & SUN 4:25 9:30 FRI 4:25 9:30 12:00 SAT 1:55 4:25 9:30 12:00 SUN 1:55 4:25 9:30 [R]</p>	<p>HAPPY DEATH DAY 2U JESSICA ROTHE RUBY MODINE WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-THU & SUN 7:20 9:35 FRI-SAT 7:20 9:35 11:50 MON-THU & SUN 4:20 9:20 FRI-SAT 4:20 9:20 11:50 [R]</p>
<p>LEGO MOVIE CHRIS PRATT ELIZABETH BANKS WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-FRI 5:00 SAT-SUN 2:40 5:00 [PG]</p>	<p>COLD PURSUIT LIAM NEESON LAURA DERN MON-THU & SUN 4:20 9:20 FRI-SAT 4:20 9:20 11:50 [R]</p>

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Carsie Blanton makes disillusionment fun



This cover image released by So Ferocious Records shows “Buck Up,” the latest release by Carsie Blanton.

Associated Press
By SCOTT STROUD
Associated Press
Carsie Blanton, “Buck Up” (So Ferocious Records)
Songwriters of all political persuasions have labored to define the odd moment we’ve been living through since the U.S. election of 2016 upended everything.

Many, especially on the left, have sometimes been preachy, literal or too full of themselves to be bearable. Now comes Carsie Blanton, a New Orleans-based singer and part-time sex blogger, whose entry, “Buck Up,” offers a radical but playful take on it all. She is disillusioned, yes, but she isn’t taking things too seriously. Blanton blends revolutionary politics with daring commentary about relationships, all laid out on a bed of clever, label-resistant songcraft. A rough-cut lover she’s attracted to, for example, has “got a kiss like summer in the dirty South, but I don’t mind at all.” It would be wrong, though, to mistake Blanton’s sometimes-graphic lyrics or little-

girl vocals for a lack of emotional depth. On a lovely ballad called “Harbor,” she counsels risk-taking: “Lovers run to ruin, soldiers run to war, ships are safe in harbor, but that ain’t what ships are for.” Blanton’s political take emerges vividly on “American Kid,” a song about the world we’re leaving to our children. It’s a danger zone for clichés, but Blanton’s take is original and cutting. On the title cut, she channels John Prine so vividly that she offers the songwriting legend a writing credit in the liner notes. The song, a manifesto for coping, caps off an engaging album that succeeds by finding joy in the face of disillusionment. □

Ego, publicity at stake when stars and TV critics meet

By LYNN ELBER

DAVID BAUDER

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)

— Jerrod Carmichael, lamenting what he called the “terrible” state of TV comedy, asked his audience if they’d seen some of it. Starting back at the comedian was a hotel ballroom filled with journalists whose job it is to cover television.

“I think they see all of it,” helpfully offered Ramy Youssef, his fellow producer and star of their new Hulu sitcom.

“Poor y’all,” Carmichael said, a sympathetic coda to a semiannual event in which broadcast networks, cable channels and streaming platforms parade the shows and stars they hope will get attention from the 250 members of the Television Critics Association and, in turn, viewers.

The group, TCA for short, has been meeting twice a year, winter and summer, since it was founded in 1978. TV producers, actors and sometimes executives trek to a hotel — or more accurately, limo there, and mostly within upscale L.A.-adjacent areas — to answer questions about their shows and mingle with reporters at cocktail parties for more questions.

The stars are easy to spot: they’re well-dressed. Reporters, not so much, but they have the upper hand and a microphone during the Q&A sessions that are the core of the roughly two-week-long event. Adherence to the journalistic maxim of “no cheering in the press box” means celebrities face the unnerving sound of silence as they step out on an ad hoc stage.

“They can’t applaud?” a puzzled Ruth Westheimer, aka sex expert Dr. Ruth and the subject of a new documentary, said at this month’s just-ended meeting at the Langham Huntington hotel.

Dustin Hoffman, touting the short-lived series “Luck” in 2012, felt likewise.

“That was the thinnest applause I’ve ever heard. If it was a play, we would know



In this Feb. 11, 2019 file photo, Jerrod Carmichael, from left, Ramy Youssef and Bridget Bedard participate in the “Ramy” panel during the Hulu presentation at the Television Critics Association Winter Press Tour in Pasadena, Calif.

we were in a flop,” he said, which drew zero response from the room and more from Hoffman: “I don’t even get a laugh for that.” There’s further uneasiness to be had. With every reporter now online — whether they work for a newspaper or a website — their stories, tweets and blogs are posted as soon as a celebrity offers up a remark bearing a hint of news. That means a roomful of reporters making more eye contact with their laptops than with the panelists, who in turn are left staring at rows of Mac logos.

“I wish I’d bought Apple stock before coming out here,” is an oft-repeated wisecrack, said TCA President Daniel Feinberg. Then there’s the similarly familiar response from actors asked about plot twists in spoiler-inclined shows: “I’d tell you, but I’d have to kill you.”

“The number of drinking games that you could play associated with your typical TCA (meeting) is myriad,” said Feinberg, chief TV critic for The Hollywood Reporter.

Sometimes the questions can be downright rude. Jon Bon Jovi discovered that when he was invited to the stage by Fox — for reasons still unclear — during the network’s promotion of a new season of “American Idol.”

The first reporter given a microphone asked him, “What are you doing here?”

Not the rock star adulation he’s accustomed to. But HBO’s session for “Big Little Lies” last week was an example of press tour at its best.

It was packed with star power you’d rarely see gathered together in front of the media — Meryl Streep, Nicole Kidman, Reese Witherspoon, Laura Dern and Zoe Kravitz — displaying an easy camaraderie as they gave smart answers to smart questions. They offered priceless quips, like Witherspoon’s mock gripe that she’s always left with the tab when they go out, along with insights about the upcoming second season.

Less stellar was the session

on PBS’ upcoming “Nova” series about the planets, in which a scientist on the Mars Rover expedition was asked if it was true that stars twinkle but planets don’t, and commanded by another reporter to “talk about Mars.”

Whether the questions were uniformly better back in the day, the TCA meetings nicknamed “press tours” — for no apparent reason, since touring isn’t involved — belonged to a very different universe, a pre-digital version.

“Without any question, the internet and the immediacy of this event have changed completely. It’s a different creature,” said the TCA’s Fienberg.

In the late ‘70s, with cable TV on the cusp of expansion and Netflix not yet a noun, ABC, CBS and NBC defined television. TCA members came from the daily newspapers that had plenty of pages to give to TV features, with scribes from the Philadelphia Enquirer, Houston Chronicle and Boston Globe among the group’s first officers.

Networks offered reporters three full days of round-table interviews with industry figures and wooed them with splashy entertainment featuring such stars as Garry Shandling, recalled Fred Rothenberg, who covered TV for The Associated Press from 1981-86 and later became a network producer. Broadcasters had “a lot of money back in the ‘80s,” he said, and the big spending paid off for everyone involved.

“Most of the TV critics had a vacation,” Rothenberg said, stockpiling interviews for feature stories to be written and published later, when a show aired. There were also occasional flurries of stories when executives such as then-NBC chief executive Grant Tinker took part and made newsier comments.

Networks still field TCA panels, but they’ve cut back to one day or even less as the critical darlings of cable and streaming, such as HBO’s “Game of Thrones” and Hulu’s “The Handmaid’s Tale,” increasingly distract journalists. □

Associated Press

Travelers can retrace 'Green Book' path with some research

By **RUSSELL CONTRERAS**

JAY REEVES

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)

— The Oscar-nominated interracial road trip movie "Green Book" has spurred interest in the real guidebook that helped black travelers navigate segregated America. With a little research, travelers can find copies of "The Negro Motorist Green Book" online and retrace the route in the movie or develop their own tours of sites that once provided refuge to African-Americans.

The Peter Farrelly film follows an Italian-American bouncer, played by Viggo Mortensen, as he drives a prominent black classical pianist, played by Mahershala Ali, during a 1962 music tour through Jim Crow-era America.

To avoid conflict and to protect the pianist, Mortensen's character uses the Green Book — a guide published from 1936 to 1966 by Harlem postal worker Victor H. Green.

The Green Book offered black travelers tips on places to eat, visit and sleep while on the road. The taverns, hotels and gas stations were often black-owned and were identified via word-of-mouth or through advertisements.

"Carry your Green Book with you," the book warned readers on its cover. "You may need it!"

Today, curious travelers can find copies of every edition of the Green Book for free



This Feb. 12, 2019 photo shows the exterior of the old Ben Moore Hotel, once mentioned in the "Green Book" for black travelers, in Montgomery, Alabama.

at the New York Public Library Digital Collections or purchase replicas from the Camarillo, California-based About Comics publisher. Inside, readers will find listings in almost every state with addresses of places that catered to African American travelers amid of world of "Whites Only" restaurants, hotels and other establishments across the United States.

Some of the places featured in the travel guide still exist, at least as shadows of their former selves.

In Birmingham, Alabama, the city of the final performance in the movie, the

once black-owned A.G. Gaston Motel is now part of a national monument established by then-President Barack Obama. The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and aides stayed at the motel while planning demonstrations against legalized racial segregation in the city in 1963.

Now abandoned and owned by the city, the motel once was an upscale haven with a restaurant and live music for blacks seeking safety in a place known as the most segregated city in America. It eventually will be refurbished as part of plans that call for it to become a centerpiece of the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument.

About 90 miles to the south, in Montgomery, King often got his hair cut in a barber shop inside the Ben Moore Hotel, which was a Green Book fixture at the time King was pastoring a church in Alabama's capital in the 1950s. The hotel still stands on a corner, vacant and decaying.

Meanwhile, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the De Anza Motor Lodge, a business owned by Zuni trader and Indian art collector

Charles G. Wallace, along the historic Route 66 is still standing, barely. It offered black motorists opportunities for a good night's rest and a chance to catch a nearby show of American Indian and Mexican-American doo-wop singers. The motel was listed in some editions of the Green Book and is undergoing renovation after years of being abandoned.

The Threatt Filling Station in Luther, Oklahoma, is on the National Register of Historic Places for its distinction as a black-owned filling station along the Route 66 "Mother Road."

Associated Press

The Threatt family's recent partnership with historians to preserve the former station and the movie "Green Book" have brought about a renaissance of sorts for the structure,

The Oklahoman reported in December.

Charles Becknell, Sr., 77, of Rio Rancho, New Mexico, said he bought a 1954 edition of the Green Book online after he saw the movie. The retired educator plans on visiting some of the sites mentioned in the book to see what's there now. "I also wanted my grandchild to see this book for themselves," Becknell said.

To be sure, some of the sites mentioned in the Green Book no longer exist and the buildings that once housed them have been replaced or torn down.

Frank's Restaurant in New York City's Harlem neighborhood, advertised in the 1959 Green Book edition, is long gone and a new defunct discount store occupies the spot.

The former Booker Washington Hotel and Courts in San Francisco, which once offered black travelers "splendidly decorated suites" and a "cocktail lounge," is now a Safeway grocery store and apartments.

The movie "Green Book" is nominated for best picture at the 91st Academy Awards scheduled to air Sunday on ABC. Mortensen is nominated for the best actor award and Ali as best-supporting actor. □



In this Dec. 3, 2018, file photo, Rev. Allen Threatt III, left, and his cousin Edward Threatt stand outside the historic Threatt Filling Station on U.S. 66 in Luther, Okla.

Associated Press



In this June 24, 2016, file photo, the closed De Anza Motor Lodge sits along Route 66 in Albuquerque, N.M., and recently has been highlighted as one of the few places that allowed black travelers to stay during segregated times.

Associated Press